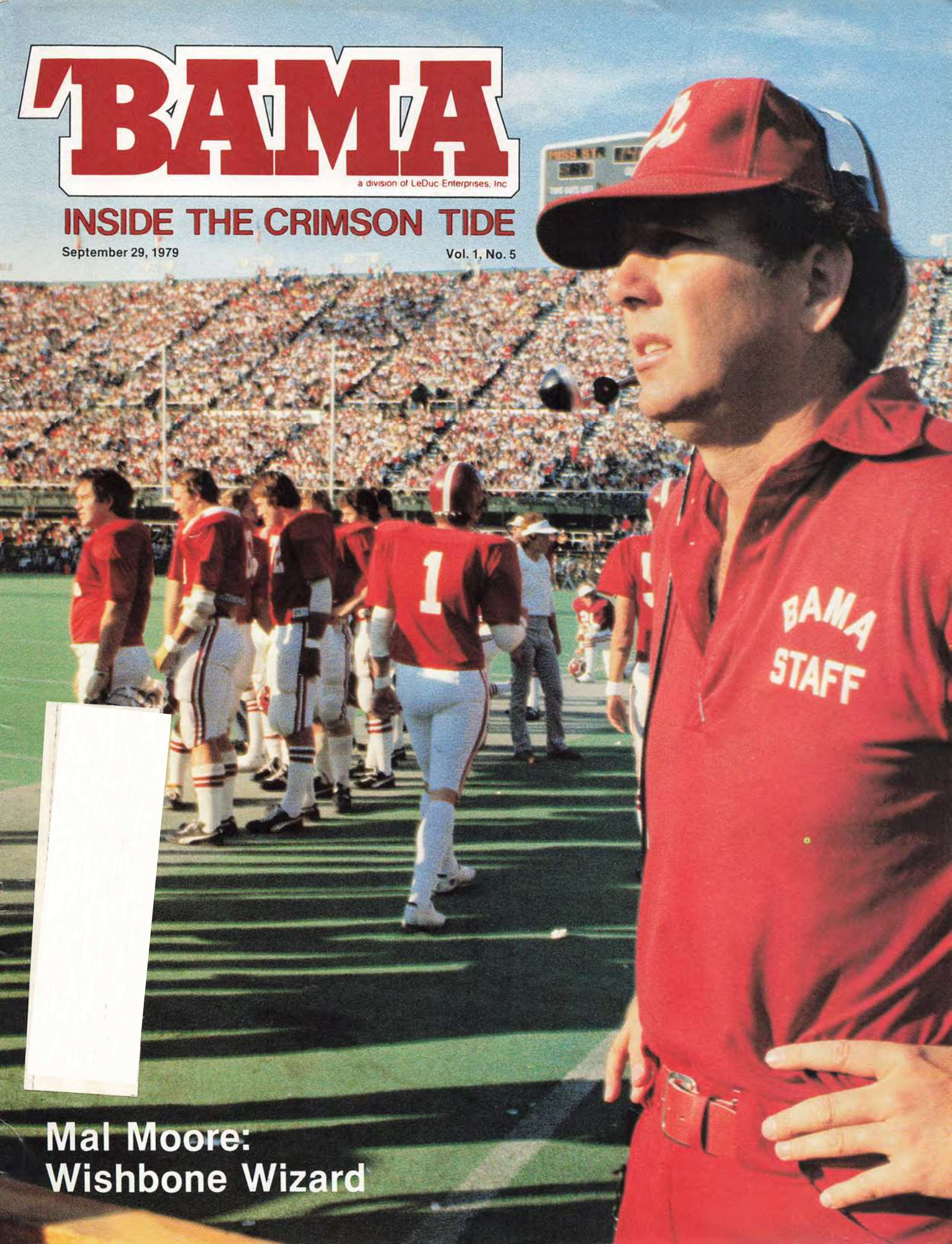
BAMA

a division of LeDuc Enterprises, Inc

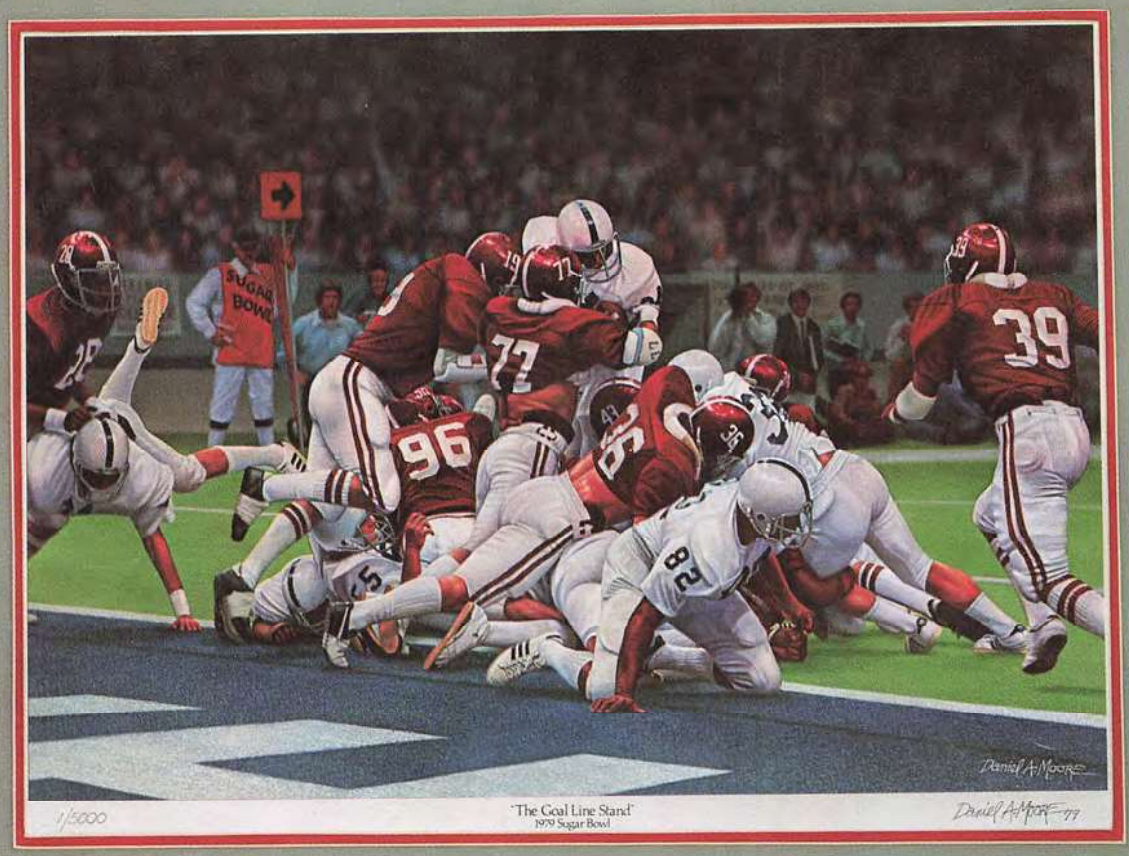
INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

September 29, 1979

Vol. 1, No. 5



Mal Moore: Wishbone Wizard



A CLASSIC.

Limited Edition Print Offer

Throughout the history of Alabama football, few plays will be as long remembered as this incredible goal line stand against Penn State in the 1979 Sugar Bowl. This dramatic display of commitment and determination is a classic example of what has made the University of Alabama the number one name in intercollegiate football.

Daniel A. Moore's striking oil painting, "The Goal Line Stand," captures in intricate detail the action and excitement of that unforgettable moment. Now you can have your closest look yet at this memorable illustration of second-effort football.

The Print.

New Life Art proudly offers you the opportunity to own a Limited Edition print of this powerful painting for your home or office. It also makes a great gift! These large, colorful prints, measuring 31 by 24 inches, have been created under the artist's personal supervision to ensure quality reproduction. Each one has been individually signed and numbered by the artist, further enhancing the value of this outstanding reproduction.

"The Goal Line Stand" is a Limited Edition reproduction print and can be purchased on a first-come basis only. Order your classic today!

The Artist.

A graduate of the University of Alabama in Fine Arts, Daniel Moore focuses mainly on Super-realism– a style of painting that requires dedicated discipline. His work has been exhibited in many competitive art exhibitions and has won numerous awards and honors. Prints of a recent work of his were nationally advertised and sold in all 50 states. An avid Alabama football fan, Mr. Moore has given exceptional effort and months of work to "The Goal Line Stand"— a tribute to his number one team.

Send me _____ print(s) of "The Goal Line Stand" as specified below.

	Price	Quantity
Unframed	$35 each	
Group order of 10 or more	$30 each	
Custom Framed (shown above) — ready to hang.	$80 each	

Shipping costs: Add $2 each for unframed prints
Add $5 each for framed prints
Alabama residents add 4% sales tax

Total amount enclosed _____
(check or money order only)

new lifeart
P.O. Box 1974
Birmingham, AL 35201

Please print *Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for delivery*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

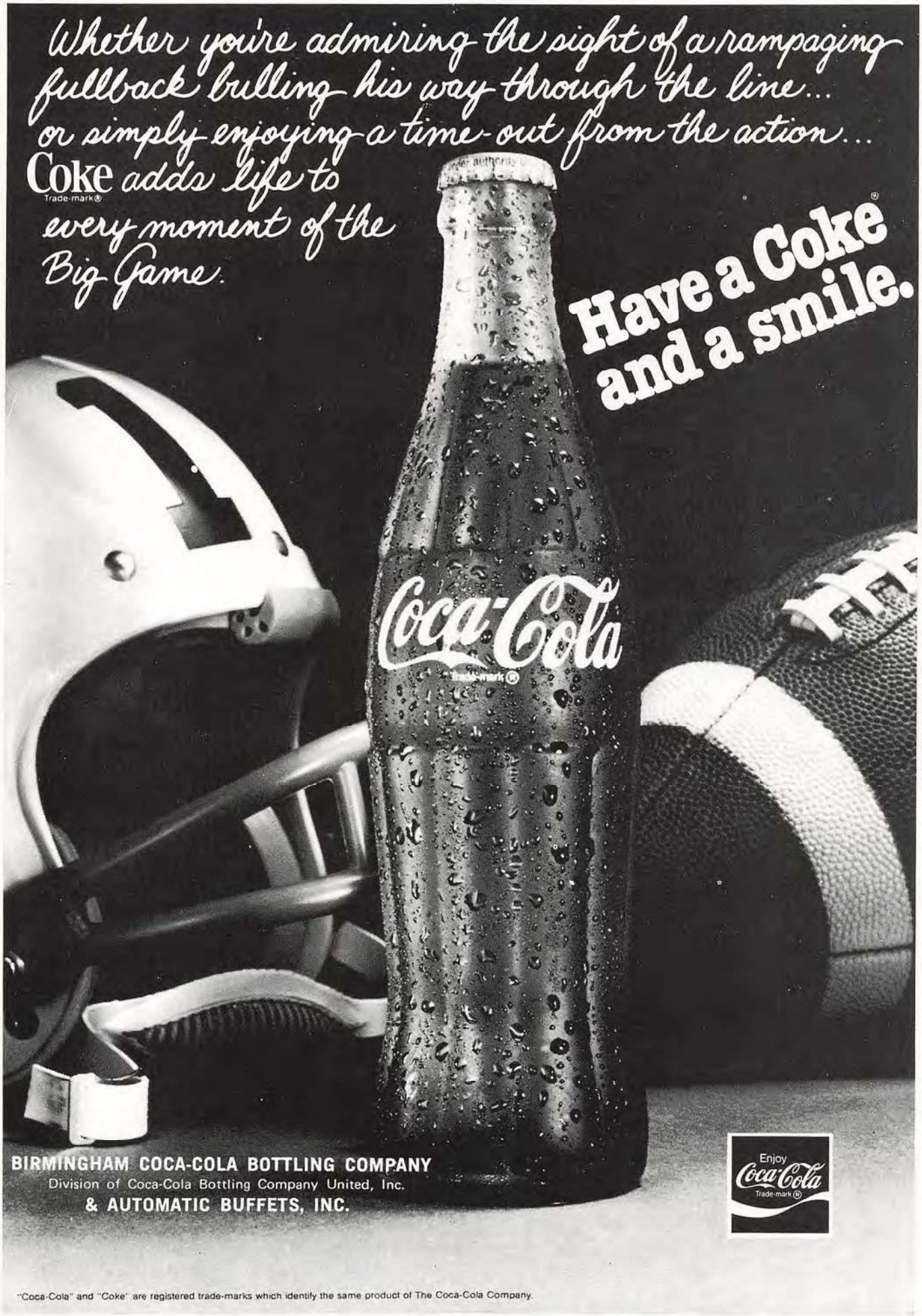
State _____ Zip _____

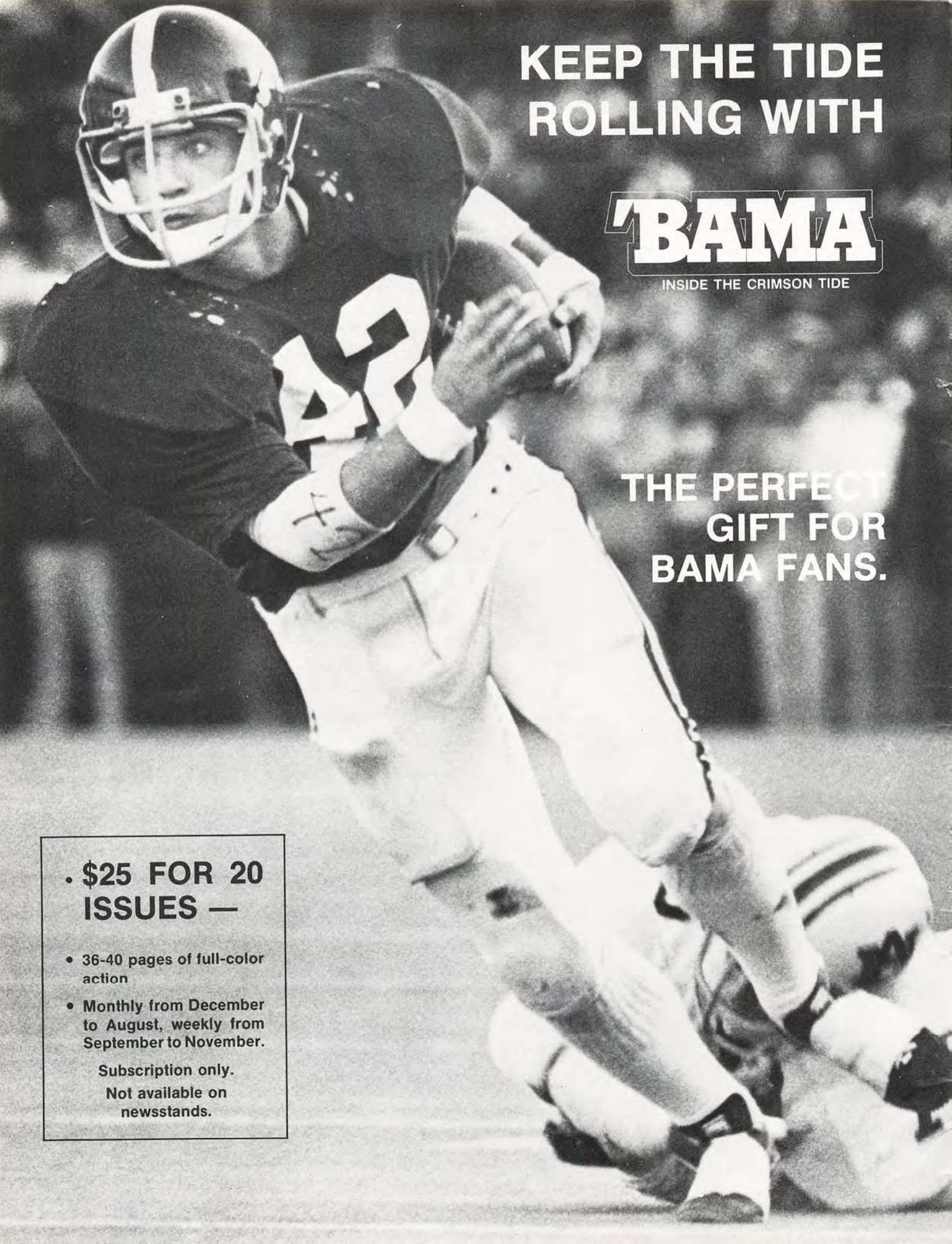
Digitized by Archive.org

The original oil painting, "The Goal Line Stand" may be purchased (if still available) for $10,000. For more information write to above address. Print edition is limited to 5,000.

Our Guarantee: You'll be completely satisfied or return the print(s) within 10 days for full refund.

©1979 NEW LIFE ART


Whether you're admiring the sight of a rampaging fullback bulling his way through the line...
or simply enjoying a time-out from the action...
Coke Trade-mark® adds life to every moment of the Big Game.
Have a Coke® and a smile.
Coca-Cola
BIRMINGHAM COCA-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY
Division of Coca-Cola Bottling Company United, Inc.
& AUTOMATIC BUFFETS, INC.
Enjoy Coca-Cola Trade-mark®
"Coca-Cola" and "Coke" are registered trade-marks which identify the same product of The Coca-Cola Company.


KEEP THE TIDE ROLLING WITH
'BAMA
INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE
THE PERFECT GIFT FOR BAMA FANS.
• $25 FOR 20 ISSUES —
• 36-40 pages of full-color action
• Monthly from December to August, weekly from September to November.
Subscription only.
Not available on newsstands.

BAMA
a division of LeDuc Enterprises, Inc.
INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER 29, 1979 Volume 1, Number 5

On the cover: Alabama offensive coordinator Mal Moore relays information from the press box scouts to the men on the field.
All photos courtesy of the Tuscaloosa News and the University of Alabama.

Page 8

Page 15

Page 20

Baylor Football Recap 6
'Bama brings you the complete story of the Crimson Tide's game against Baylor, Alabama's first game in the state of Alabama this year.
by Kirk McNair

History of Alabama Athletics
Favorite of The Favorites 8
Harry Gilmer had never thrown a pass until his senior year of high school, but as a freshman at Alabama earned a reputation as the nation's best at his craft. His performance in the 1945 Sugar Bowl is legend.
by Mike Bolton

Coach Mal Moore 15
Alabama's quarterback coach and defensive coordinator has been learning and teaching the wishbone offense since the Tide started its performance with it in 1971.
by Kirk McNair

Don McNeal
Playing For His Father 20
Don McNeal, Alabama's star defensive halfback, has a special reason for wanting this to be a big year for him and the Crimson Tide.
by Hank Brownstone

Vanderbilt Scouting Report 25
Coach Bryant's memory is certainly good enough to remember what happened the last time Vanderbilt downed the Tide in Nashville and Bama players should remember the struggle of 1978.

The Departments
Crimson Gallery 18 Around the League 31 Scorecard 32

LeDuc Enterprises, Inc.

President: Thomas R. LeDuc
Executive Vice President: John Morris
Vice President-Marketing: William Cahill
Vice President-Public Relations: Jerry S. Ashby
Managing Editor: Molly Martin
Circulation Director: Brenda Goldstein
Assistant to the President: Sandy Cornett

BAMA Magazine

Editor: Kirk McNair
Circulation Director: Lynne McNair
Contributing Writers: Mike Bolton, Hank Brownstone

For advertising information, please call (816) 421-5914

BAMA Inside The Crimson Tide is published monthly for nine months from December to August and weekly for eleven weeks from September through November, by LeDuc Enterprises, Inc., 1500 City Center Square Building, 1100 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64196. Editorial office is located at Post Office Box 6104, University, Alabama 35486. Postmaster: Send form 3579 to Post Office Box 6104, University, Alabama 35486. Second class postage (0190975) paid at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, with an additional entry. Subscription rate is $25 for 20 issues. Foreign subscriptions $5.00 per additional. Change of address: Six weeks advance notice, and old address as well as new required. Address all correspondence to: Post Office Box 6104. University, Alabama 35486. Not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or photographs unless accompanied by return postage. Copyright 1979 by LeDuc Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

ONE BEAR AND TOO MANY HORSES

by Kirk McNair

No one doubts that Alabama had one Bear too many for the Baylor Bears.

But just as important were the horses that the Alabama Bear has put into the Crimson Tide stable.

Coach Bryant and a few Baylor players said following Bama's 45-0 rout Saturday night at sold out (77,512) Legion Field in Birmingham that the final score was not indicative of the difference in the two teams. That may be true, although not the way Coach Bryant meant it. The Tide squandered several good scoring chances or it might have been much worse. And there's no indication that Baylor would get across the Bama goal if the two teams were still playing.

The win cemeted Alabama's spot among the nation's top teams this year going into what appear to be a couple of soft touches, at Vanderbilt Saturday and home in Tuscaloosa to Wichita State the following Saturday. Bama's main concern over the next few weeks must be fatheadedness.

Depth Chart, Page 30

The key thus far this season has been ball control. The Bama defense is getting the football back in a hurry and the Tide offense is keeping it for long stretches. Alabama has averaged over 80 rushing attempts and over 90 plays in its first two games, Tide opponents 26 rushes and 50 plays. Bama's defensive coaches have their films graded early Sunday morning, while the Tide offensive coaches are having to work up into the afternoon to complete their film work. And that's the way they want it to stay. The coaches also want to continue posting the high grades that Tide players are making.

One would be hard-pressed to find anything wrong with the Alabama season after two games, but it could be that the Tide is getting into a bad habit of letting scoring opportunities get away. It happened against Georgia Tech and it happened again against Baylor.

In the first quarter E. J. Junior blocked a punt inside the Baylor 30. The ball was caught by David Hannah, so it's not reasonable to expect him to have run with it. But it was a golden opportunity for the offense to cash a quick touchdown and dampen the spirits of the visitors. The Tide had second and short at the Baylor 12, but ended up with Alan McElroy kicking the first of his Alabama record-tying three field goals (he's one of five Tiders who have kicked three field goals in a game at least one time), a 30-yarder.

Later in the quarter Don McNeal turned in the first of six Bama interceptions and Alabama moved inside the Baylor 10, only to have the drive stall again and bring on another McElroy field goal.

On Alabama's first possession of the second half — a crucial possession in the mind of Coach Bryant — the Tide moved to a first down at the Baylor three and ended up with a fourth down at Baylor's 16. McElroy salvaged three points.

It's not reasonable to expect the perfect game that Coach Bryant looks for — scoring every time and stopping the opponent every time — but there will be games later this year when Alabama will not have the luxury of such chances escaping.

Alabama also had too many fumbles (five, with two lost), but the penalty situation was much better than it usually is — only two penalties for a total of 10 yards. Unfortunately, one was instrumental in

Bama began running away with the Baylor game in the second half when Tide backs, as Steve Whitman (45), found big holes up the middle.

ending Bama's touchdown chance on that first possession in the third quarter.

Alabama quarterbacks did not have a good game passing. Steadman Shealy hit only one of six passes (plus a two-point conversion pass) and Don Jacobs only one of five, both completions good for eight yards. Four times — including the first offensive snap of the game — Alabama threw on first down, all falling incomplete.

When a team runs up 23 rushing first downs and 431 net yards of rushing offense, as Bama did against Baylor, there's a tendancy to think that the passes should not be thrown. However, even when incomplete the passes served a purpose. Baylor was cheating its free safety up towards the line of scrimmage to help against the run. The Alabama wishbone offense is designed to be able to eliminate five men on a side on a running play. If the safety is able to come up on the run the defenders will outnumber the Tide blockers. Those passes, even though incomplete, did the job of keeping the safety out of the running plays.

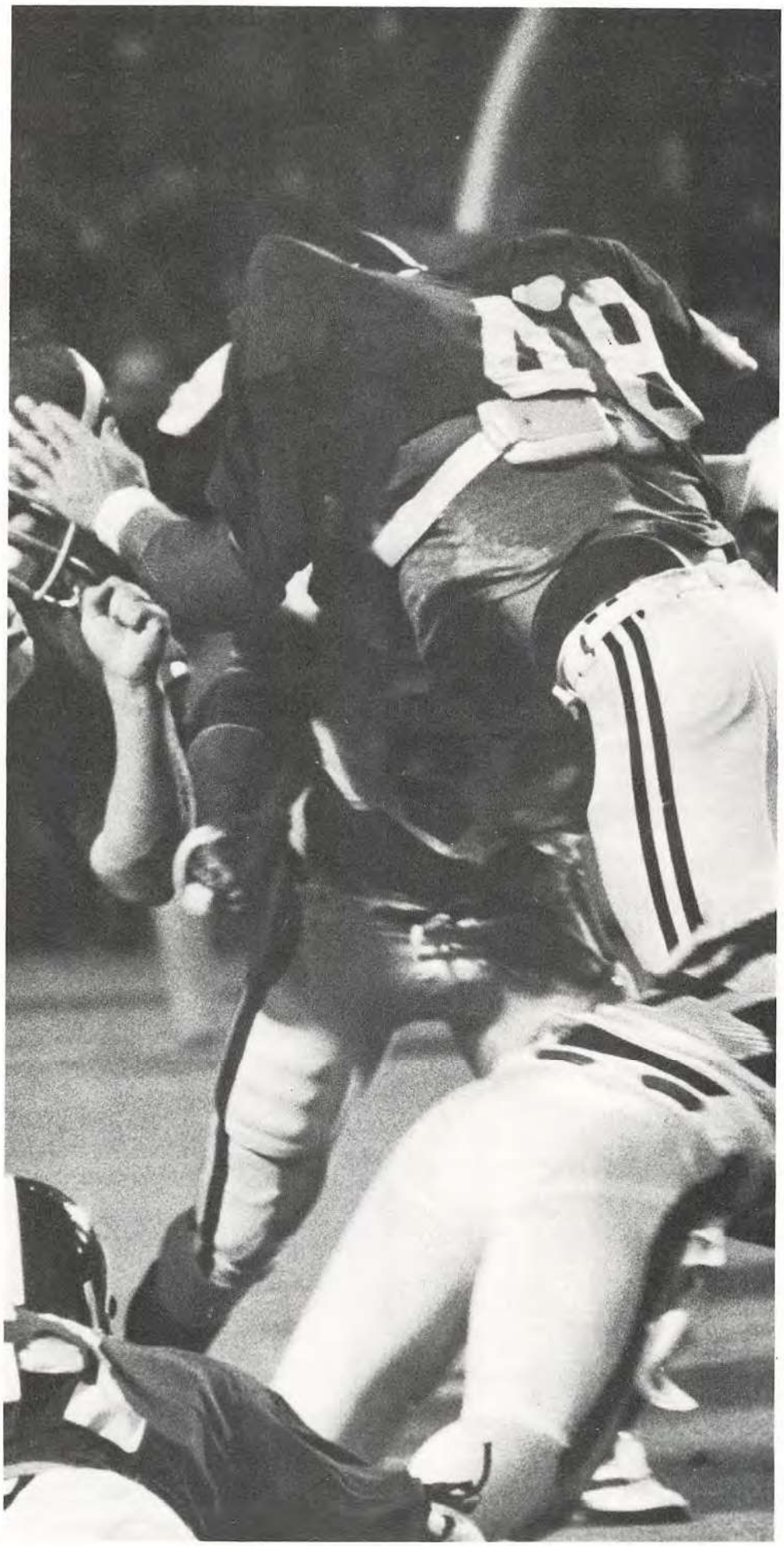
Alabama's defensive backs didn't have to worry too much about the Baylor running game. Tommy Wilcox, making his first start at strong safety, noted that "our front did such a good job of stopping their running game that the secondary could just play the pass most of the game. We didn't have to worry about their backs getting into our secondary."

Baylor surprised Alabama coaches to an extent by severely altering the offense they had used to defeat Lamar and Texas A&M. Bama had prepared for an offense featuring two wide receivers and a running attack led by soph Walter Abercrombie. Abercrombie had never started a game in which he failed to gain 100 yards rushing before Saturday night, but Baylor came out with three wide receivers and Abercrombie finished the game with five carries for only three yards.

If the Bears had been effective passing it might have been a good move, but Bama defenders caught six Baylor passes, Baylor receivers only five for a total of 72 yards. And the altered running game produced only 67 yards on 32 tries. Baylor managed three first downs each half and reached Alabama territory once in each half.

There is no question that Alabama depth played a significant role in the final score. Bama led by only 17-0 going to the fourth quarter, three McElroy field

Continued on Page 10



Previously unheralded Mark Nix scores one of his two touchdowns against Baylor with a powerful final thrust at the goalline.

THE FAVORITE OF THE FAVORITES

by Mike Bolton

There was a world war in progress in 1944 and the University of Alabama Athletics Committee voted not to have a football team for the second straight year.

Alabama's coach, Frank Thomas, spent 1943 heading war bond drives and serving as president of the Tuscaloosa Exchange Club, but by '44 he was ready to hit the practice field again.

Thomas promised the committee he would field a team "that would not disgrace the University." The committee discouraged his request, but eventually and reluctantly gave in.

Thomas was sharp. Besides his efforts for the war in 1943, he had kept his hand in the recruiting game. He knew where there was a left halfback that could help Alabama have a team that would not disgrace anyone.

Woodlawn High School was the second largest high school in Birmingham, just blocks from the affluent section of town known at East Lake. The Colonels, as they were proudly called during the war days, had a gimpy-looking, 150-pounder named Harry Gilmer.

The young Gilmer had never thrown a pass in a game until his senior year of high school, but when he started it appeared he would never quit. Zipp Newman of **The Birmingham News** had written that Gilmer was "as fine a passer as there was in football. This goes for the pros."

Naylor Stone of **The Birmingham Post** compared Gilmer to one of the game's greatest at the time. "The kid's just as fine a passer as (Georgia's Frank) Sinkwich."

Thomas didn't exactly have the scoop on Gilmer. Colleges everywhere, thinking Alabama would not field a team, had moved in for their sales pitch. Gilmer had

Harry Gilmer (52) is still considered by many to be Bama's best.

them all stymied. At the ripe ol' age of 18, he was ready to settle down. "I just want to get me a job and get married," he told everyone.

Gilmer respected Woodlawn coach Malcolm Laney to the fullest, so Thomas hired him as an assistant. Gilmer signed with Alabama shortly thereafter.

It appeared a superstar like Gilmer could never correct the problems Thomas faced when his skeleton team reported for its first practice. There were so many players in the service the Southeastern Conference allowed freshman to play that year. Thomas found himself loaded to the brim with freshmen and 4F's.

Very few freshmen coming into college have a trademark, but everyone knew of Gilmer's jump pass. It has always been reported that Gilmer was too short to see over the line of scrimmage so he was forced to leap into the air to see, but he denied that.

"I don't know why I jump or leap every time I pass," Gilmer said in an interview his freshman season. "We had this play at Woodlawn where the halfback ran to his right and then would jump up and pass and I guess I got it from that.

"I guess I started jumping and throwing without realizing it."

The 1944 team became known as the "War Babies" and it didn't take long for them to become a sentimental favorite with the fans. It even took less time for Gilmer to become the favorite of the favorites.

Alabama opened its season against favored LSU and Gilmer's 24-yard run before the half gave Alabama a 21-14 lead at intermission. His 96-yard kickoff return at the start of the second half put Alabama ahead 27-14, but LSU blocked two fourth-quarter punts and scored off them to end the game in a 27-27 tie.

Gilmer led Alabama on to a 5-2-1 record that "rebuilding" season and the Tide surprised everyone including themselves by receiving a Sugar Bowl invitation along with Duke.

Thomas knew about Duke. He knew the Blue Devils were an older, experienced team and he told his team it might not be such a good idea to accept. The team voted to head to New Orleans.

The newspapers jumped on Thomas with both feet. He was criticized for letting his freshman team meet Duke and its Navy trainees. Thomas lashed back saying they were fighters and that he loved every one of them. He said they could take care of themselves.

Gilmer was cool and poised on game day. Laying on his bed in the motel before

Continued on Page 12

BIRMINGHAM
the fun starts here

Start at the top. A glass elevator whisks you up to Vulcan's observation deck for a breathtaking panoramic view of Birmingham. Vulcan is the world's tallest cast iron statue, standing watch over the Magic City from the crest of Red Mountain.

Next stop, the nearby Jimmy Morgan Zoo. Ride the train around the largest zoo in the Southeast, then visit the cuddly newborns in the nursery before crossing the street to stroll through the beautiful Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

Now it's on to Tannehill State Park. See cabins and a foundry from the 1800's. Picnic by the water mill and go swimming in the creek.

If you deserve a little fun this weekend, get away to Birmingham. For details on how to save on food, lodging and attractions, write or call collect.

Send me information about Birmingham's money-saving food, lodging and attractions package.

I deserve a little fun this weekend.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Greater Birmingham Convention & Visitors Bureau
2027 First Avenue, North/Birmingham, AL 35203/(205) 252-9825

RING THE BELL on Archive.org

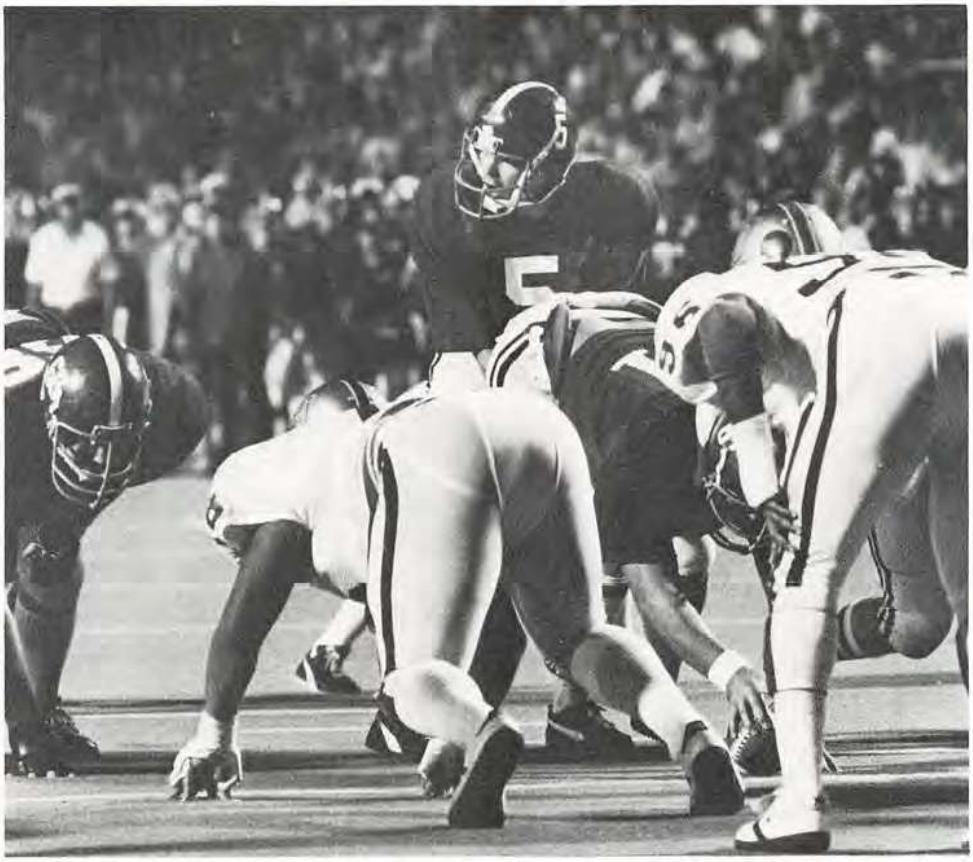
Continued from Page 7

goals and a one-yard run by Major Ogilvie in the second quarter providing the points. Late in the game a Baylor defender told an Alabama running back "I'd rather scrimmage our first offense than play against your third offense."

The backup men scored Bama's last four touchdowns, all in the fourth quarter. Mark Nix, a 6-0, 195-pound sophomore who has come from nowhere, went in from two and four yards out, Joe Jones scored on a one-yard plunge and John Hill took it in from 10 yards out with just 22 seconds left in the game.

Alabama had 13 men who carried the football against Georgia Tech in the opener. Eleven of those got in on the action against Baylor. Alabama didn't run the end-around against Baylor, eliminating Keith Pugh from the rushing statistics, and Mitch Ferguson is back on the injured list with a pulled hamstring, the malady that kept him out of action all last year.

Ogilvie was Bama's leading rusher with 73 yards on 15 carries. Shealy had 66 yards on 13 rushes, including a 54-yarder that set up Ogilvie's touchdown and was the longest of the year so far for the Tide. Shealy was caught at the Baylor 11 by the last defender. When the senior quarterback returned to the bench after the Tide had moved to a 14-0 lead, Coach Bryant smiled at him and said, "Steadman, I thought you told me you had your speed back."



Back-up Alabama quarterback Don Jacobs was very effective Saturday piloting the Tide wishbone offense against Baylor.

Billy Jackson looked far more comfortable at left halfback against Baylor than he had against Tech. While most of his pre-Tech practice had been spent at fullback, his work in the two weeks before

COACH BRYANT ON BAMA

"I was proud of the team for winning and I was particularly proud of the defense. I think we improved some over the Georgia Tech game. I don't think I can recall a more productive defense than we had tonight.

"I certainly don't think the score tells the story. Baylor is a much better team than that. They were well-prepared and they hit us for 60 minutes. They had terrible luck and they never were able to establish their offense against us. We got a lot of awfully good breaks. I'm sure that Coach (Grant) Teaff is terribly disappointed. I know I would have been. The score just doesn't indicate the difference in the two teams.

"Our offense never established that much consistency, but we did get a lot of points. We never did find something we could go back to over and over again.

"We threw some stuff out of our offensive plan at halftime and went to the things we thought would work.

"I'm more pleased with this victory than the win over Georgia Tech because we scored more points in this one and we didn't give up any points. Anytime you put a shutout up there the players and (assistant) coaches have done something.

"We were able to play a lot of people (62 of the 70 who dressed) and I was happy about that. We were able to give some young men some work under game conditions.

"We get into the conference schedule now and that means we have the limit (of 60 men dressed) and won't be able to play as many.

"I'm sure that Vanderbilt was looking ahead to us, but they won't be looking ahead this week. They've got a lot of those same people who were responsible for Vanderbilt being in front of us for three quarters in Tuscaloosa last year, good players who are well-coached.

"But I'm not going to worry about Vanderbilt. I'm going to worry about Alabama."

Alabama's defense pounded the Baylor Bears Saturday as evidenced by the pursuit of Mike Clements (43), Byron Braggs (96) and Warren Lyles.

the Baylor game was primarily at left halfback. Billy picked up 64 yards on eight carries, including a 15-yard run. "I feel better at left halfback, now," said Billy following the game. "I think my blocking was better. I think I had a couple of key blocks and that's because I'm more confident at left halfback. I've had some time to work on my assignments." Jackson said that Baylor defenders reacted very quickly to the outside run "so in the second half we came back and cut across the grain on them through the middle. And, of course, I think they got pretty tired."

Nix was happy with his touchdowns, but as most Bama backs talked first about blocking. "I had been wanting to score," he said, "but I made a good block on Steadman's long run and that's about as big a thrill as scoring." Mark was listed as a fourth team fullback-halfback or as a defensive back who didn't rate the four-deep on Bama's pre-season depth chart, but has been very impressive behind Ogilvie this year. Against Baylor he had eight carries for 52 yards. "I think they were getting pretty tired and discouraged when I did most of that," he said. "I'd hate to be 30 points behind and still have 10 minutes to play."

Backup quarterback Don Jacobs directed Bama to two of its fourth quarter touchdowns and picked up 46 yards on five carries. Alan Gray was in at quarterback on the final two scoring marches and had 16 yards on four runs.

Other Bama rushers were Hill with nine carries for 38 yards, Steve Whitman eight for 35, Charlie Williams three for 17, James Haney six for 17 and Joe Jones three for seven.

The Bama kicking game continues to look very solid. Woody Umphrey is getting very good hang time on his punts, averaging about 4.5 seconds, and with no punt longer than 45 yards has a 40-yard average. Most important, Bama opponents have returned only two of his seven punts and those for just three yards.

In addition to his three field goals, McElroy hit on five-of-five extra points. He missed one following Bama's fourth touchdown, but Baylor was offsides and he made it on the attempt after the penalty. When he kicked his last extra point that gave Alan 27 in a row going back to last year's Washington game, a new Alabama record. The old record of 26 consecutive PAT kicks was set by Danny Ridgeway in 1974.

Alabama also set a new record for rushing tries in a game, the 82 beating the 1972 record of 80 against Vanderbilt. Since the Tide had 79 rushes against Georgia Tech there's a suspicion that the new mark may not be on the books for long.

In addition to the interception by McNeal, which led to a field goal, Bobby Smith turned in a theft that led to a fourth quarter touchdown and Baylor passes were also picked off by Wayne Hamilton, Ricky Tucker, Tommy Wilcox and Robbie Jones.

Alabama now has 10 pass interceptions this year, compared to 13 all of last season. Bill Oliver, who coaches the Alabama secondary, doesn't put his finger on any one reason for the overall improvement in Bama defensive backfield play this year. "I think that part of it is experience, part of it is not having a key injury and a big part of it is the play of the defensive front on the rush and the linebackers helping out underneath," says Oliver. For the year Bama opponents have completed only 40 percent of their passes.

Generally speaking, all first teamers and most backup men had good performance marks against Baylor. Some — center Dwight Stephenson, guard Mike Brock, cornerback McNeal, linebacker Jones, running backs Nix and Ogilvie — were outstanding.

Continued from Page 9

the game, he told reporters it was just going to be like any high school game.

Thirty seconds into the game the newspaper reporters appeared to be correct. On the second play from scrimmage, Duke's George Clark raced 52 yards for a score.

Gilmer stepped in. He and his teammates weren't about to quit. Taking over after a Duke fumble on the 34, Gilmer's first pass went to the one. Bama scored, but missed the extra point.

Alabama got the ball back and Gilmer's next pass went 30 yards to the two before Norwood Hodges was stopped. Hodges got the final two on the next play.

Alabama got the ball back again and Gilmer hit Ralph Jones with a 51-yard pass, then hit him with a 10-yarder for a score. Duke came back with a score of its own before the half and went into the dressing room behind 19-13.

Duke's superior size began to wear out the Alabama bunch in the second half and the Blue Devils marched 63 yards for a score at the start of the half to go ahead 20-19.

Hugh Morrow kept Alabama alive with an 80-yard interception return, then gave the Blue Devils an intentional safety that cut Alabama's lead to 26-22.

The plan didn't work. Duke scored in three plays and won 29-26. With a little luck, Alabama may still have won. Gilmer threw long on the last play of the game and Jones caught it and evaded all tacklers except the one that caught him from behind.

"It was the greatest game I have ever seen," the famed Grantland Rice said about the game in newspaper accounts the next day. "The Sugar Bowl game must go down as the greatest game of all time."

Gilmer completed all eight passes he threw for a Sugar Bowl record. Rice called Gilmer, "The greatest passer I have ever seen."

The game made Gilmer a celebrity. **Esquire** came out with a story entitled "Better than Baugh" which started plenty of fuss. Gilmer became the nation's premier passer with three years of eligibility left.

A Montgomery sporting goods store reported selling over 150 jerseys with No. 52 on them and there wasn't a kid in Alabama who threw a pass during the Christmas holidays standing on his feet.

As a freshman, Gilmer had amassed some 768 yards total offense.

In 1945 Gilmer found his name mentioned among the Heisman Trophy candidates and finally finished fifth in the balloting. He led Alabama to a 10-0 record and ran up 552 yards rushing and another 905-yards passing. He passed for 13 touchdowns.

Young Harry Gilmer thrilled Grantland Rice, among thousands of others.

Gilmer led Alabama to a school record of 430 points scored and Alabama was invited to play Southern Cal in the Rose Bowl.

Alabama was favored and it was easily seen why in the fourth quarter when Alabama led 27-0 and Southern Cal hadn't made a first down. Alabama finally won 34-14.

Alabama had a strange year in '46 as it went 7-4, but Gilmer had another fine year as he ran up 1,427 yards of total offense. He had five touchdowns passing and eight rushing and finished seventh in the Heisman balloting.

Gilmer's final year saw him in the Heisman balloting again as he finished fifth after leading Alabama to an 8-3 record. He rushed for 305 yards, passed for 610 more.

Gilmer's career ended with him accounting for 1,673 yards rushing, 2894 passing and responsibility for 50 touchdowns.

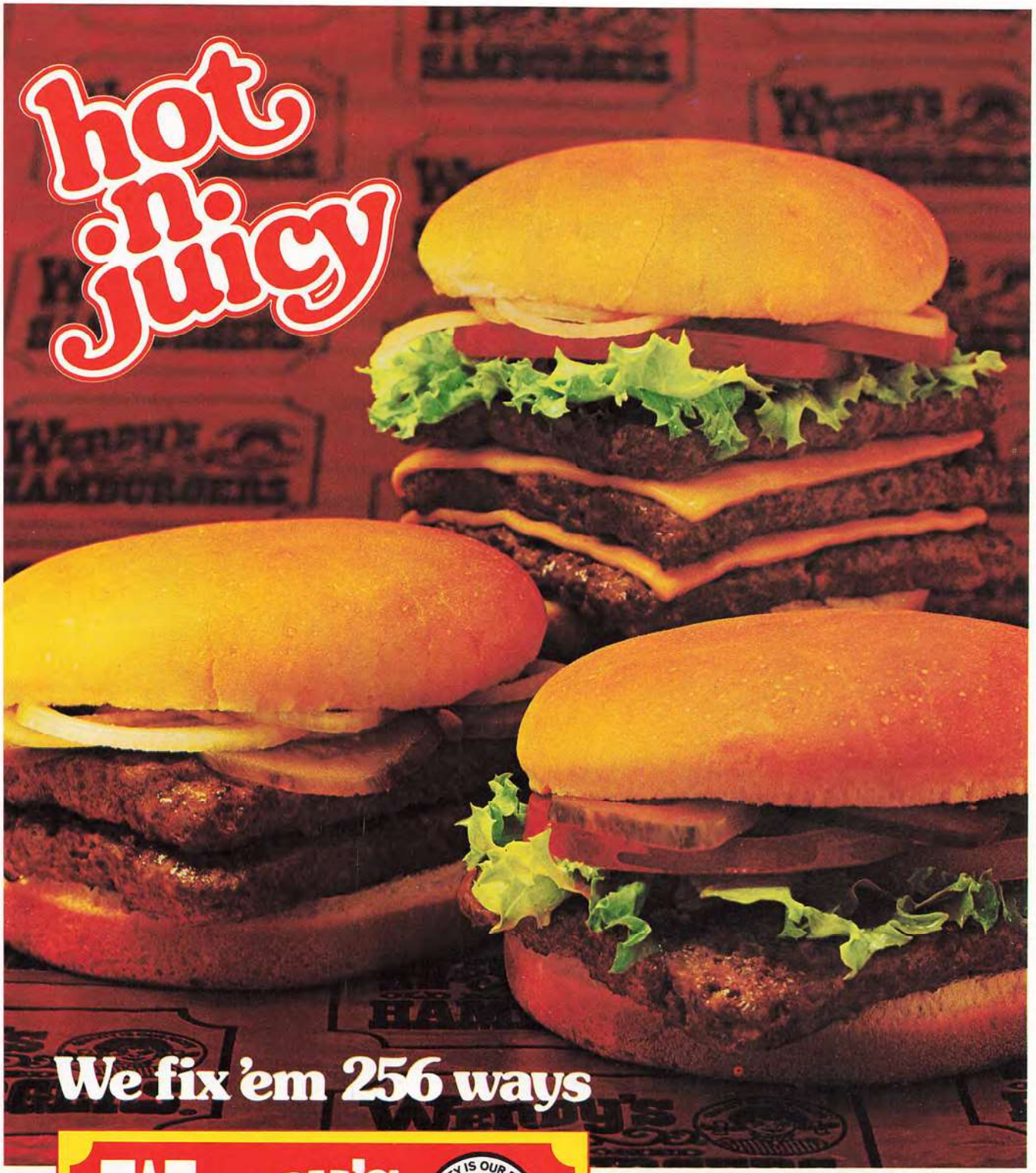
Gilmer became one of the time's highest paid pro players as he signed a three-year contract for $45,000. A leg injury ended his career early, however.

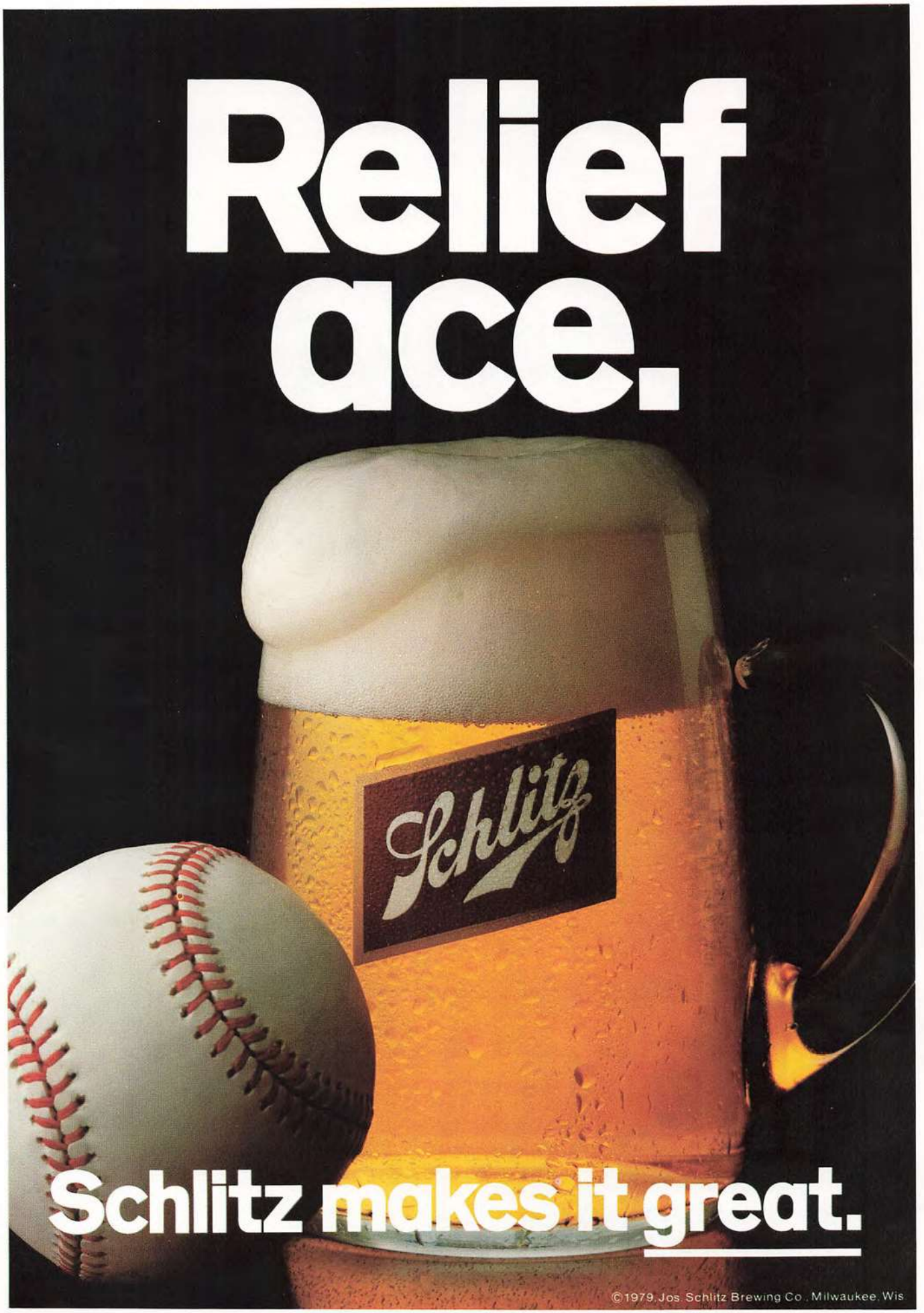
Alabama's great quarterbacks since Gilmer have eclipsed most of his records, but he still has a few.

His 806 career plays lead one category where his 8.72 average gain per play still heads up a season mark. He still owns season and career marks for most touchdowns responsible for with his 1945 mark of 22 leading the season records and his 50 touchdowns leading the career category.

Gilmer's 95-yard dash against Kentucky is still the longest Tide rush from scrimmage and his 64.8 completion percentage in 1945 leads the Tide's season category. He, Joe Namath and Jeff Rutledge share the Bama record for one season touchdown passes, 18.

Gilmer now coaches for the NFL St. Louis Cardinals.


hot n juicy
We fix 'em 256 ways
Wendy's
QUALITY IS OUR RECIPE
OLD FASHIONED
HAMBURGERS®


Relief ace.
Schlitz
Schlitz makes it great.
©1979 Jos. Schlitz Brewing Co., Milwaukee, Wis.

MAL MOORE

THE RUNNING OF THE WISHBONE

by Kirk McNair

Mal Moore has been either a player or a coach on five National Championship teams under Alabama head coach Paul Bryant. But it may be that more exciting to him than any of those championship seasons was a year in which the Crimson Tide came up short in its quest of the crown.

"It's amazing what 1971 meant to us," remembers Mal, who that year shifted from coaching Bama's defensive backs to coaching the quarterbacks. "It was one of the most rewarding years that I have experienced in football because I feel that it was a crucial year for the Alabama program. The fact that we went 11-0 during the regular season against a difficult schedule was most important to us." Alabama played Nebraska for the National Championship that year and the prowerful Cornhuskers, still considered one of the college football's all-time greatest teams, ended the Cinderella run for Bama in the Orange Bowl. Nevertheless, Alabama's program had been revived to national prominence which has continued throughout the decade.

It was almost a clandestine effort that turned the program around in 1971. "We had had two bad years," remembers Mal, "and Coach Bryant was convinced after spring practice in 1971 that we were not going to be able to win using the drop back passing offense that we had run in our 6-5 years (1969 and 1970)." Steve Sloan had left Bama following the 1970 season and Bill Oliver had been hired from Auburn. Coach Bryant shifted Mal from secondary coach to coach of the quarterbacks prior to spring practice.

"Terry Davis was the leading quarterback in terms of seniority in the spring of 1971 and no one beat him out that spring," says Mal. "But we didn't feel that our offense was really suited to Terry's strength. Coach Bryant had determined that we would go to some sort of option game.

"That summer Darrell Royal (then head coach at Texas) was the guest speaker at our coaching clinic, talking about the wishbone offense. After the clinic Coach Bryant talked him into staying over a couple of days. For two days we stayed with him and with a projector and blackboard tried to learn as much about the wishbone as we could. We were trying to keep it a secret and the only ones who knew what we were doing were Coach Bryant, myself, John David Crow who coached the running backs and Jimmy Sharpe who coached the offensive guards and tackles—the ones meeting with Coach Royal. By then Coach Bryant had determined, as he told us, 'that we were going to sink or swim with the wishbone.' I'm mighty glad he did because it's been awfully good to us."

Alabama's opening opponent in 1971 was Southern Cal in Los Angeles, a team that many picked to be No. 1.

"We were somewhat familiar with the wishbone because we had played teams that used it, and we felt somewhat confident of it after our meetings with Coach Royal because he showed us how to coach it and how to attack with it," says Mal. "But we still had a measure of unsureness about it until we went out there and beat Southern Cal. I think that game gave our players and the coaches the confidence that we could run the wishbone and win with it."

Mal picked up additional duties prior to the 1975 season when Bud Moore became head coach at Kansas. Coach Bryant named Mal as Offensive Coordinator.

Coach Moore grew up in a family of Alabama fans and there was no question in his mind that he wanted to play for the Crimson Tide when he finished his career at Dozier High School. It was also during high school that he decided he wanted to become a football coach "because like most young players I really looked up to my high school football coaches." Now 39, Mal came to Bama as a quarterback in Coach Bryant's first year with the Tide, 1958, and played both offense and defense for the Tide. He earned both a bachelors and masters degree at the University, coached for a year at Montana State, then returned to Bama in time for the 1964 season and has been a member of the Tide staff ever since. Mal was never a starting quarterback for the Tide, but he was an intelligent football player. "I played behind Pat Trammell until my senior year, then a sophomore beat me out pretty quickly my senior year. It wasn't nip and tuck, either," Mal laughs. The talented soph was one Joe Namath.

The basic tenet of the wishbone triple option offense is the same today as it was when Bama coaches learned it in 1971. However, Alabama's offense has had to make adjustments through the years. "There's no question that coaches have played against it for a number of years and have made adjustments to the wishbone," says Mal. "That means that you have to go to other things if you can't overpower the defense. We've been fortunate in that we have been able to pass successfully out of the offense and this has helped us. We have thrown the football more and more each year.

"Last year we averaged throwing 16 passes per game, which is comparable to any winning team. The lowest completion percentage rate we've had since we've been in the wishbone is 54 per cent and several years we have been over 60 per cent.

TIDE

"It's a myth that the wishbone is not a passing offense. Last year Jeff Rutledge broke Joe Namath's record for career touchdown passes and he tied Namath and Harry Gilmer for touchdown passes in one season. In 1973 we averaged 13.4 yards per pass attempt, which is still a national record."

Professional football teams do not run the wishbone offense, but that hasn't kept them from wanting backs from college teams which do, points out Coach Moore. "Jeff was drafted by Los Angeles last year and they are very high on him and, of course, Richard Todd was a first round draft choice of the New York Jets. Beyond that the running backs out of our offense have all been high draft picks and pro coaches really appreciate the fact that the backs we have sent up have been so well-rounded—able to block and catch passes as well as run. The pro coaches also tell us that our quarterbacks are quickly able to adjust to reading pro defenses because they have learned to make such quick reads running the triple option."

The wishbone years have been very good to Alabama. Going into the 1979 season, eight years of wishboning have resulted in a record of 85-11, two national championships and seven Southeastern Conference titles. The worst season in that stretch, 1976's 9-3 mark, is considered a fine year at most schools.

Alabama's wishbone offense is primarily a running offense and the Crimson Tide has set almost every rushing and total offense team record during the past eight years. The SEC record book is dominated in similar departments by Alabama achievements of this decade. And Bama moved into the NCAA record books in several categories with its rushing prowess in the 1970's.

As with any offense, Alabama's attack begins with the men that Mal coaches, the quarterbacks. "The quarterback in our offense must be able to run and pass," points out Mal. "We have to have a balanced attack from our quarterback. But it goes far beyond those basic skills. The Alabama quarterback must have a lot of discipline. He has to be sound mechanically. If he is disciplined he will be mechanically sound in his footwork and that makes the 'reads' much easier. And that increases the chance of making the higher percentage handoff or pitchout or keep." Basically, the Alabama wishbone depends on the quarterback eliminating at least one defender without a block, making that defender commit himself before the play gets to that defender. If the first defender goes for the fullback the quarterback keeps the ball outside. If the next defender goes for the quarterback, the quarterback pitches to a running back.

Coach Moore uses a sideline blackboard to show Crimson Tide players how to attack a defense.

Alabama head coach Paul "Bear" Bryant consults with his offensive coordinator Mal Moore.

Coach Bryant has never made a secret of the quarterback being special. "I think the quarterback has got to be a good leader," says Coach Bryant. "And he has got to be able to carry the team. He's got to be thinking football all the time. He's got to be talking with his teammates on the field and off the field. And he's got to have confidence in what he can do himself, especially in the clutch. We're not going to have just one play for that clutch situation; we're going to have several and when the time comes the quarterback will choose his best pitch, like a baseball pitcher with a 3-2 count."

Formerly Coach Bryant often ate lunch with the quarterbacks and spent as much time as possible with them. "Now I leave most of that up to Mal and just talk to them the day of the game."

Once a game begins the quarterback is in command for Alabama's offense. "Our quarterbacks call almost all of our plays," says Coach Moore. "Once the game begins we try to find out as quickly as

Continued on Page 22

DON McNEAL

INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

by Hank Brownstone

When South Alabama nights pass slowly in the small Escambia County community of McCullough, 66-year-old Henry McNeal probably helps them along with broad smiles and soft prayers.

As lonely as he might be living by himself on a five-acre farm that was once home for a family of 12, he must have an abundance of comforting thoughts.

The Lord knows he has reason to be happy.

Knowledgeable football fans realize he has cause to be proud.

You see, Henry did well raising his youngest son. In fact, his effort was so thorough that his favorite All-Southeastern Conference defensive halfback, Don, gets somewhat choked up trying to explain.

"When Mom died, they wanted to split us up," Don said, starting his story before a recent University of Alabama practice. "But Dad would not allow that. He said our family would stand united and that's what we did."

"He is a strong man. He has had a lot of responsibility the last 15 years and has always been there to meet it.

"My last year at Alabama is dedicated to Dad. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't be where I am today. I had to grow up quickly. Dad helped me become a man.

"You know, Dad has never seen me play a game, but has promised to be in Tuscaloosa for Wichita State. I hope he makes it. This is his season—and my last one."

A fatherly push into premature manhood, yes, but McNeal is being too modest when sharing credit for his prowess on the football field.

Blessed with natural ability, the 6-foot-1, 185-pound Crimson Tide senior has worked hard to become a star in a National Championship constellation.

"Don was born with God-given talent for playing corner back," said Bill Oliver, the Alabama assistant coach in charge of the defensive secondary. "All he needed coming out of high school was polish and the exposure to our brand of football. In my estimation, he can be a pro player if he keeps working."

To tell the McNeal story in full would take too much time and space. It drips with plot, something along the lines of an Incredible Journey. The road he traveled to Alabama is much like the one Crimson Tide Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant used coming out of Arkansas—starting deep in woods, stepping over countless obstacles and finding the way along an unmarked path.

McNeal has defied seemingly unfair odds.

He played football only two years at Escambia County High School in Atmore, starting the first game he ever attended and signing an Alabama grant-in-aid 26 games later.

He is in his fourth year at Alabama and is considered one of the top professional prospects in the country. Last year, he made 37 tackles, blocked two punts, intercepted a pass and broke up eight passes.

He is the man that enabled Alabama to produce one of the most dramatic moments in football history—the famous goalline stand that deprived Penn State of a fourth-quarter touchdown and preserved a National Championship-clinching 14-7 Sugar Bowl victory. It was his tackle of Nittany Lion split end Scott Fitzkee at the one-yard line that gave the Crimson Tide an opportunity to stop two Penn State runs. He broke up a would-be touchdown pass in that game and intercepted another pass in the end zone.

"The three crucial plays Don made in the Sugar Bowl—the interception, the broken up pass in the end zone and the tackle on Fitzkee—were exceptional," Oliver said. "They were text book efforts. He stayed with his man perfectly on the passes and the play he made on Fitzkee was even better. That was not his man for coverage, rather a receiver that slipped into the flats. Don was about five yards deep in the end zone when he caught the pass, yet he had good enough reaction to go after him. Had Don not made a perfect tackle (knocking Fitzkee out of bounds) his momentum would have carried him into the end zone for a touchdown."

You might say McNeal played a career in one day.

But...

"I want to play to my potential and I don't think I've done that," McNeal said. "I want to go as high and as far as I can in football. That's what God expects out of all of us.

"Some people say I am at a disadvantage because I got started in football at a late age. I don't believe that. A lot of guys are burned out, but I'm still eager to play. I came back this season in great shape because I want to get better.

"I hope to peak. I haven't done that yet. I want to do it helping Alabama win another National Championship.

"Then the pros? Sure, most everybody wants that. That's one reason I'm at

← **CRIMSON GALLERY**

Shoestring

Alabama defensive players are charged with stopping the progress of opposing offensive players. A play around the line of scrimmage usually means a contact tackle, but often in the secondary — against speedy backs and receivers — the only hope is a shoestring tackle. It takes quickness, strength and split second timing to pull off a shoestring tackle, as Don McNeal shows.

Alabama. I knew I could get the proper training here—either enough football ability to make a living or a good enough education to get a solid job.

"I know if I do well, there is a man back home who won't have to worry about his future."

To hear McNeal talk about his childhood is to understand his loyality. He was six when his mother died, almost too young to remember, yet old enough not to forget. Once strong enough, he pitched in and helped his 10 brothers and sisters—nine older and another two years younger—with family chores. He recalls his sister Eunice, 12 years his elder, leaving for a job in Detroit and sending back money and clothes. He has vivid recollections of family prayers when times were bad.

"People say your mother and father are your heart," Don said, "but my sisters, brothers and Dad are mine. Other than God, they will always be No. 1 to me.

"We're a close family. That's how we made it when I was young. We pulled together and worked at it. With God's help, we made it.

"Everybody except Dad and me lives in Detroit now, but we get together on holidays. Even now, it's like it was back then. We enjoy each other, talk a lot and pray a lot. We laugh a lot, too."

McNeal did not seek football. He was lured into the sport by his high school coach, Glen Latham. Latham watched him during physical education class one day, recognized talent and coaxed him onto the field.

"That was during the spring of my sophomore year," McNeal said, "and it sounded okay to me. But when I asked Dad about it, he was not that happy. He told me to make up my own mind, but said there would be days that I'd have to miss school or come home early and work on the farm. I did that a lot, sometimes two or three days straight. I don't think Dad would have let me play at all had Coach Latham not told him I had a chance to get a scholarship."

Having never played football—or watched a game, for that matter—McNeal experienced rude awakenings when practice started. He laughs at his ignorance now, although nothing was funny at the time.

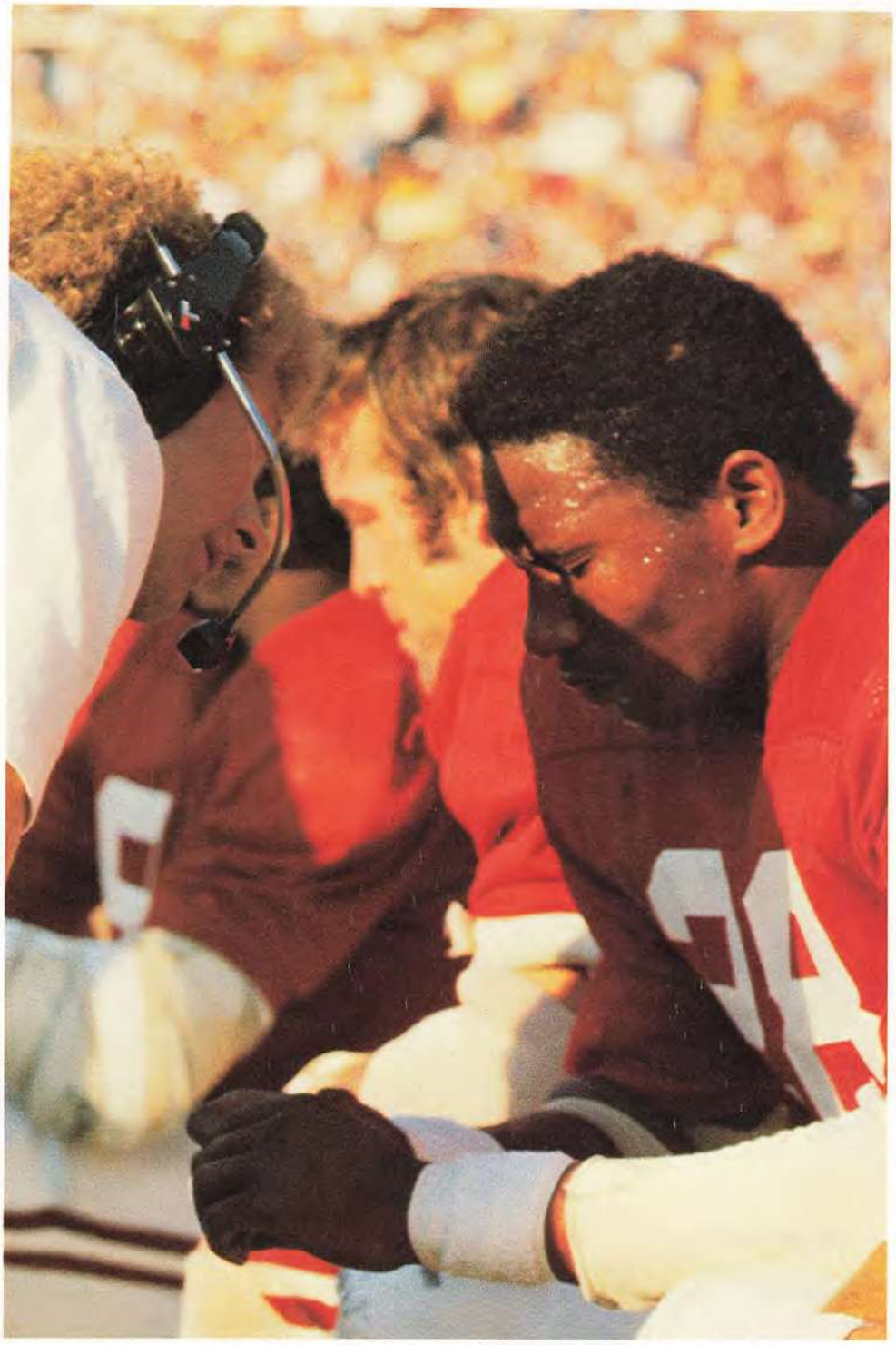
"I didn't know the first thing about putting on a uniform and that's where my problems started," McNeal said. "You should have seen me the first day we put on pads. Man! My pants were two sizes too big, my shoulder pads were about to fall off, my thigh pads were in backwards and my helmet slid around on my head.

"But I didn't know anything was wrong until we got about halfway through the first practice and my ears started burning. I wasn't having much fun. I thought that was the way it was supposed to be. But when we got back to the dressing room, my ears were bleeding and I asked one of the coaches what was wrong. He started laughing, then told me to put ear pads in my helmet. Nobody had bothered to tell me that.

"It wasn't a great start. I wanted to quit, but decided to give it a few more days. After about two weeks, I was having the time of my life."

Little did McNeal know that five or so years later he would miss enjoying what he calls the "most satisfying thing" that has happened to him. It happened the first night of this year.

While his teammates were frolicking in the French Quarter or dancing in fast-paced disco houses, McNeal was in his Hyatt House Hotel room trying to clear his thoughts. On the series of plays after the



Bama star defensive back Don McNeal takes a break on the sidelines. Former Tide safety Andy Gothard, now a graduate assistant while in law school, helps with secondarymen.

goalline stand, he was knocked out by the knee of an opponent. A sweet Sugar Bowl was suddenly a blur.

It is still difficult to believe that a player who had such a vital role in the victory did not realize Alabama had earned one until 45 minutes after the game.

"I was laying on a table in the dressing room when I first started coming to my senses," McNeal said. "The first person I saw was (trainer) Jim Goostree. He was standing over me with a big smile on his face.

"I said, 'Coach, did we win?'

"Then he said, 'You know we won, Don.'

"And then it hit me. Man, what a great feeling."

Bama's Don McNeal gets past the blocker to make this tackle.

Continued from page 17

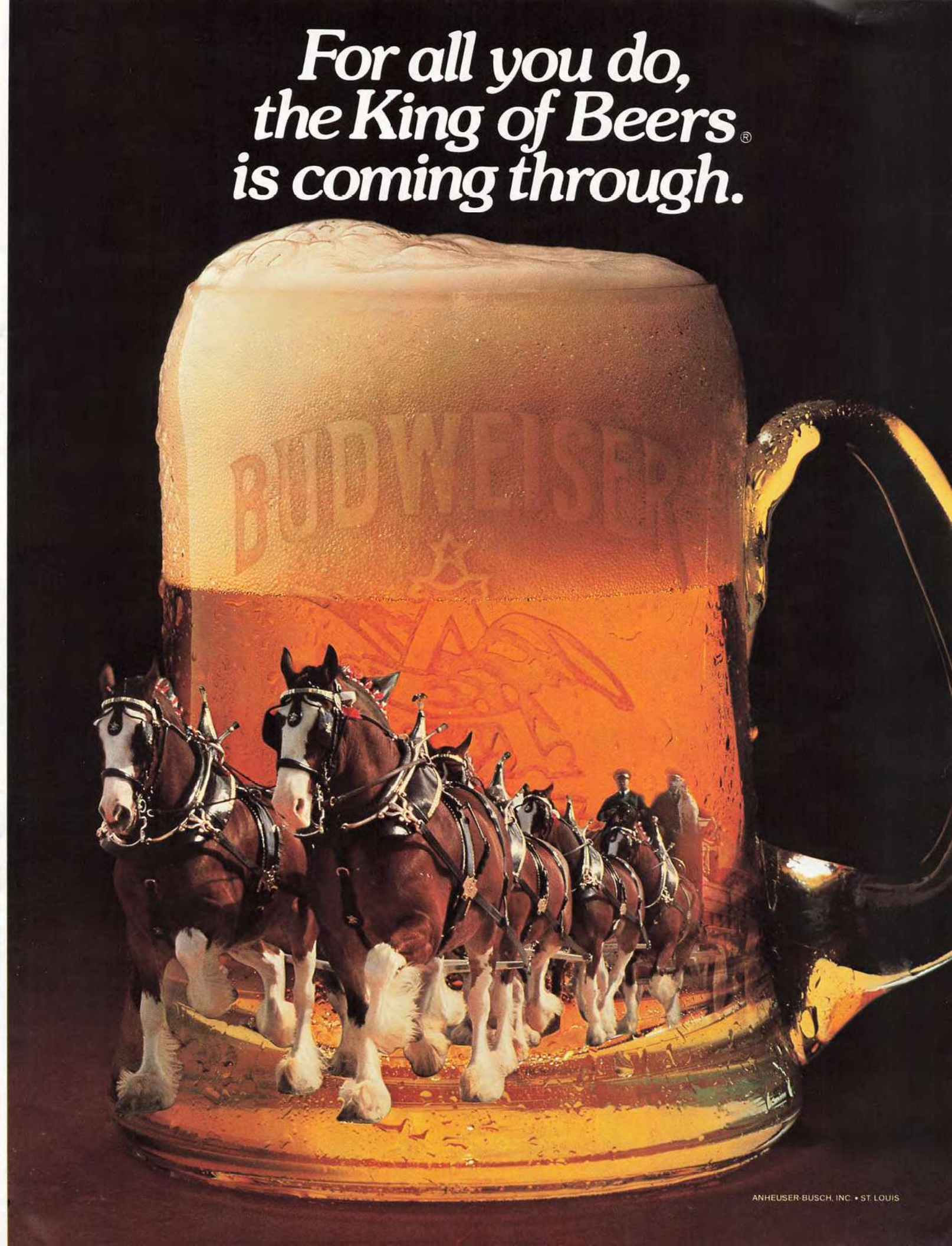
possible what the opposing defense is doing against our triple option and against various formations we might use. Then, if necessary, we make slight adjustments in our offense. I'll go over those things with the quarterbacks on the blackboard, but then they pretty much call the game. Coach Bryant prefers it that way because he has found that the on-the-field authority helps the quarterback as a leader and a performer. We will call a play from time-to-time based on something we've picked up."

Coach Bryant points out that the quarterback "can't make a bad call as far as I'm concerned. I handle that for us; I make the bad calls—all of them." However, Coach Bryant admits, he makes very few calls. "Against Ohio State in the Sugar Bowl Mal called a pass play. I was going to change it but wasn't quick enough. The next thing I knew Bruce Bolton was pitching the ball back to the referee. Touchdown."

There are some plays, other than the bad ones, that Coach Bryant calls. "He normally makes the gadget, or trick, play calls," says Mal. "He has a special football genius, knowing when to pull one out, and we have been very successful over the years with such things as the pass back to the quarterback."

Mal feels that he has been very fortunate to have coached at Alabama both as an offensive and defensive coach. "I don't think there's any question that it has been very helpful to me professionally," he says. Coach Bryant has turned out over 40 players or assistants who have gone on to be head coaches themselves either in college or professional ranks. "You don't ever think about leaving, particularly during the season when things are so busy, but if it happens it happens. It's the logical objective of any assistant coach to want to be a head coach."

Mal, who is married to the former Charlotte Davis of Tuscaloosa and the father of a daughter Heather, is certainly qualified for that next step. But for now he's happy running one of the nation's most productive offenses.


For all you do,
the King of Beers®
is coming through.
BUDWEISER
ANHEUSER-BUSCH, INC. • ST. LOUIS

Don't Get Left Behind
Complete Coverage of Crimson Tide Athletics is in BAMA at $25 for 20 issues!

VANDERBILT

by Kirk McNair

Has it been 10 years? Every year when Alabama prepares to play Vanderbilt Coach Bryant undoubtedly brings up the fact that Vandy whipped Bama "a couple of years ago." It was 1969 and the Crimson Tide came out on the bottom end of a 14-10 decision, a Vanderbilt victory sandwiched in nine straight losses. In fact, you have to go all the way back to 1956 to find the next most recent Vanderbilt win, although there were consecutive ties in 1957, 1958 and 1959. The end result is that Alabama, the cream of all-time Southern football, holds a 35-17-4 margin over Vanderbilt, in recent years the soft touch of the Southeastern Conference.

Vanderbilt has put together three straight 2-9 years with the predictable result that there is a new head coach this year, George MacIntyre. Coach MacIntyre is considered a very sound coach by the Alabama staff. He had been secondary coach at Vanderbilt in their most recent period of success under Steve Sloan and was defensive coordinator at Ole Miss under Sloan last year.

Last year Bama defeated Vanderbilt 51-28, but the final score is more than just a little misleading. Bama coaches this week have undoubtedly been reminding Crimson Tide players that until Tony Nathan went 67 yards in the final half minute of the third quarter the Commodores held a 21-16 lead on Alabama in Tuscaloosa. This year the game is at ancient Dudley Field and the vast majority of the 34,000 who will cram into the stadium will be Vandy supporters, even moreso than usual because of a new Vanderbilt ticket policy that limited the number of

Alabama can expect to get many looks at Frank Mordica running for Vandy.

tickets to Bama fans and downgraded the location of those tickets for the visitors.

Vanderbilt returns some of the big guns from its effort against Alabama last year, notably quarterback Van Heflin and running back Frank Mordica. Mordica had 10 rushes for 106 yards, including an electrifying 79-yard touchdown dash in the first quarter that tied the game. Mordica did not start against Bama last year, but it's almost certain that he will this season. Heflin connected on 10 passes in 14 attempts for 168 yards and three touchdowns in Tuscaloosa in 1978. One of those touchdown tosses was to Charles Edwards, who has replaced the graduated Martin Cox at split end.

Vanderbilt has switched from an I formation to a veer offense this year to take advantage of what Coach MacIntyre unabashedly claims is "more depth at running back than Vanderbilt has ever had."

With the exception of senior Mordica, the running back corps is very young. Much of the excitement about the running back situation revolves around the early performances of two freshmen, both of them mighty mites. Lucius High, 5-8 and 178 from Nashville, was most impressive in pre-season work with consecutive 100-yard plus games in the final two Vandy scrimmages of pre-season. Very quick, Vandy will use him either as a backup to Mordica (who is 6-1, 198) or with him. Jim Bronner of Jacksonville, Fla. is an unlikely looking strongman at 5-7 and 155, but he

New Vanderbilt head coach George MacIntyre is trying to turn the Commodores around.

CRIMSON TIDE SPECIALS

All Seasons Travel

701 South 20th Street
Birmingham, Alabama 35233
205/328-9405
A division of GRANTLAND RICE AGENCIES

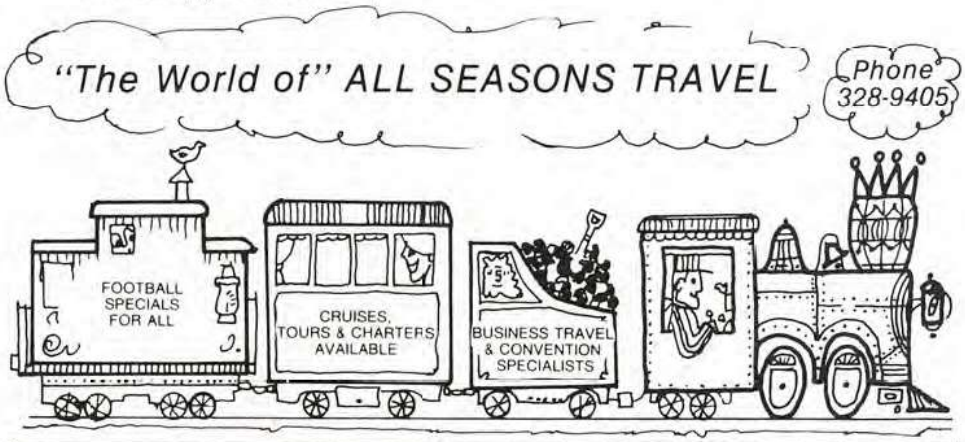
WTS Member of THE WOODSIDE GROUP OF TRAVEL AGENCIES

Sept. 28-30 Alabama vs. Vandy, Nashville, $105 (includes Grand Ole Opry, special extra concert, game ticket, Music City Celebrity Golf and 2 nights Hyatt.

Oct. 12-13 Alabama vs. Florida, Gainesville, from $135 day trip, (air and transfers)

Nov. 8-11 Alabama vs. LSU, from $175. (2 or 3 nights in New Orleans, charter bus to game from French Quarter and round trip air).

Dec. 30-Jan. 2 Sugar Bowl special, from $175. (3 nights New Orleans, game tickets).


"The World of" ALL SEASONS TRAVEL
Phone 328-9405
FOOTBALL SPECIALS FOR ALL
CRUISES, TOURS & CHARTERS AVAILABLE
BUSINESS TRAVEL & CONVENTION SPECIALISTS

JENN-AIR

VVV

A WHOLE NEW CONCEPT IN COOKING

Enjoy the great taste of Char-Flavor cooking indoors on a Jenn-Air Grill-Range.

New convected oven cooks 30% faster at 50° lower temperatures.

Conventional or glass - ceramic cooktops lift out easily to accommodate an exclusive range of cooking — Grill — Shish Kabob — Rotisserie — Griddle

If it's appliances it's

Brandino Sales Company

201 North 39th Street, Birmingham • Phone 591-2546
Weekdays 8-5 • Saturday 8-12

was a Florida weightlifting champion and one of the strongest men on Vanderbilt's (or anyone else's) team. But the star will almost certainly be Mordica. Last year he rushed for 1,065 yards and eight touchdowns, averaging 6.2 yards per carry. He carried the ball 22 times for an SEC record 321 yards against the Air Force Academy, which was the ninth best single game rushing performance in the history of college football. In addition to the big days against Alabama and Air Force, Mordica had a 148-yard day against Auburn and also went over the 100-yard mark against Tennessee. Pro scouts have timed Mordica at a sizzling 4.35 seconds in the 40-yard dash.

Others likely to see duty against Alabama are Terry Potter, a 6-2, 195-pound junior who rushed for 118 yards and three touchdowns last year; Eddie Hood, a 6-2, 185-pound junior; Mike Dunster, a 6-0, 187-pound soph; Gerald Gilmore, a 5-11, 178-pound soph; and Norman Jordan, a 5-11, 186-pound soph.

Thus the claim of depth.

The Commodores return 47 of 66 lettermen from last year, including six offensive performers and eight defensive players who started the final game of the 1978 season. That figure is somewhat deceiving however since several moved into the starting lineup only after a devastating run of injuries had felled regulars in front of them, several of those injuries coming in the Alabama game. Eleven men who started against Bama last year are scheduled as probable starters this year.

Last year Vanderbilt did not dip into Alabama in its recruiting harvest, but over the years a handful of Commodores from Alabama takes special aim for the Crimson Tide. Some seven Vanderbilt players are from Alabama this year. Three of them—offensive guards Ken Hammond and Loie Hudgins and defensive back Charles Harris—are listed as starters, and the other four are high on the depth chart.

Coach MacIntyre determined in spring training (which he started on St. Patrick's Day hoping that his Irish background would bring some luck) that he had an offense which would put points on the board, but a defense which could be very young. As many as five sophomores could start on defense. He placed his spring priorities on locating each player in the best position for his new veer offense and five-man front defense. The five-man front traditionally has been more effective against the wishbone. Last year Vandy ran from a four-man front with three linebackers. With at least three men who started against Alabama listed as no bet-

YOU'RE THE COACH

"You're the Coach" is designed to provide you with all the pertinent statistics necessary for an accurate evaluation of these two teams' strengths and weaknesses. Add the information in "You're the Coach" to the more specific information in the Scouting Report for a working knowledge of both teams' individual players and team characteristics.

1979 Cumulative Statistics

	BAMA	VANDY
TEAM OFFENSE		
Rushes attempted	161	102
Yards gained	785	543
Yards lost	42	11
Net yards gained	743	532
Avg. gain per rush	4.6	5.2
Touchdowns	8	4
Passes attempted	24	45
Passes completed	12	26
Passes intercepted	2	4
Percentage	.500	.578
Total yards	137	215
Touchdowns	0	0
Passes caught	12	26
Total yards	137	215
Avg. gain per catch	11.4	8.3
Touchdowns	0	0
TEAM DEFENSE		
Rushes attempted	52	123
Yards gained	167	734
Yards lost	35	38
Net yards gained	132	696
Touchdowns	0	7
Passes attempted	49	25
Passes completed	20	17
Passes intercepted	10	0
Percentage	.408	.680
Total yards	232	220
Touchdowns	1	2
PUNTING		
Number	7	7
Yards	275	250
Avg.	39.3	35.7
Longest	45	50
FUMBLES/LOST	8/4	7/5
PENALTIES/ YARDS	9/73	13/118

INDIVIDUAL OFFENSE

Rushing	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
(BAMA) Shealy	26	145	5.6	1	54
(BAMA) Ogilvie	26	132	5.1	2	18
(BAMA) Whitman	22	98	4.4	1	13
(BAMA) Nix	13	89	6.8	2	16
(VANDY) Mordica	42	243	5.8	1	32
(VANDY) High	13	70	5.4	1	14
(VANDY) Heflin	22	70	3.2	1	12

Passing	PA	PC	PI	YDS	%	TD
(BAMA) Shealy	17	10	1	116	.588	0
(BAMA) Jacobs	7	2	1	21	.286	0
(VANDY) Heflin	33	17	4	129	.515	0
(VANDY) Swab	12	9	0	86	.750	0

Receiving	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
(BAMA) Pugh	5	62	12.4	0
(BAMA) Travis	2	25	12.5	0
(VANDY) Brown	9	96	10.7	0
(VANDY) Smith	5	76	15.2	0
(VANDY) Buggs	5	37	7.4	0

INDIVIDUAL DEFENSE

Tackles	Solo	Assisted	Total
(BAMA) Boyd	10	8	18
(BAMA) Braggs	11	2	13
(BAMA) Hamilton	4	6	10
(BAMA) Scott	8	1	9
(BAMA) Junior	7	2	9
(VANDY) Staley	13	8	21
(VANDY) Coleman	13	6	19
(VANDY) Pointer	14	4	18
(VANDY) Myrick	10	6	16

Interceptions	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
(BAMA) Jones	2	17	8.5	0
(BAMA) McNeal	2	4	2.0	0
(BAMA) Junior	1	59	59.0	1
(BAMA) DeNiro	1	10	10.0	0
(BAMA) Wilcox	1	3	3.0	0
(BAMA) Hamilton	1	3	3.0	0
(BAMA) Bob Smith	1	0	0.0	0
(BAMA) Tucker	1	0	0.0	0

ter than second team this year, it must be assumed that spring training was successful.

Vanderbilt's offense, as any team's, begins with the quarterback. Heflin, a vastly talented 6-2, 220-pound junior, started all but one game last year and completed 76 of 155 passes (49 per cent) for 984 yards and three touchdowns (all against Alabama). He also rushed for 269 yards and three TDs. Transfer Jeff Swab and sophomore Whit Taylor are also expected to see significant playing time.

The flanker is 9.3 sprinter Preston Brown, a big play artist with a flair for the dramatic. Last year he had a 90-yard kickoff return against Arkansas (followed by a broken leg in a freak practice accident the week of the Alabama game) and the previous year had a 100-yard kickoff return against Ole Miss.

Charles Edwards will start at split end. He ranked second on the team in receptions last year with eight grabs for 138 yards, including the TD snare against Bama. Gifted sophomore Wamon Buggs, 6-3, will also see action at wide receiver.

One of the best battles on the team for a starting job is at tight end, where Flavious Smith Jr., 6-4, 220, and fellow junior John McCain (6-4, 213) are fighting for playing time.

The leader of the offensive line, unquestionably, is senior Mike Ralston (6-5, 242). He has started at tackle and guard in his Vandy career and is now the starting center. It was thought that the offensive line might be a Vanderbilt weak spot, but personnel shifts have brightened the picture. The line averages 259 pounds per man with Hudgins and Hammond (261 and 240) at guards and tackles Mark Matlock (6-5, 244) and Ronald Hale (6-6, 310).

The ringleader of Vanderbilt's defensive squad is 6-2, 188-pound strong safety Ronnie Myrick, a four-year starter who hits with explosive contact. As a sophomore Myrick was given credit for handing Bama fullback Johnny Davis the first loss of his collegiate career. (Johnny took in stride, saying after his 153-yard rushing performance "I thought I had a pretty good game.") Last year Myrick ranked second on the Vandy team in tackles with 68 despite nagging injuries. Vandy notes that Myrick's 17-inch bicep and 43-inch chest are bigger than those of former heavyweight boxing champions Muhammad Ali, Joe Louis and Jack Dempsey.

The free safety is 6-4, 190-pound Carl Allen, who moved into the starting lineup last year as a freshman before sustaining a mid-season knee injury that required surgery. Manning the cornerback spots are sophs Charles Harris and Mark Brown, although senior returning starter Roy Williams is trying to make a recovery after under going spring knee surgery.

Vandy quarterback Van Heflin had a field day against Alabama last year.

The loss of All-SEC performer Ed "Sheriff" Smith and three-year starter Randy Sittason at linebacker makes that spot a tough one for Vanderbilt to fill. Aggressive sophomore Andy Ervin (6-1, 205) is battling senior John Pointer (6-1, 212) at one side, while 6-0, 230-pound soph letterman Andrew Coleman is ahead of two Alabamians, Kenny Cole and Lyle Kilpatrick, at the other spot.

The defensive line was a pre-season area of concern for Vandy coaches after the Commodores surrendered 303.9 yards per game rushing last year (448 to Alabama). Rodney Gurley, 6-4, 239, is a top performer at tackle. Bill Wilson (6-3, 235) is at the other side.

Tim Moore moved into the starting lineup last year as a freshman and was expected to be the starting noseguard, but soph George Blocker (6-2, 210 and cousin of former "Hoss" on "Bonanza" Dan Blocker) has moved him out.

Grades were the first victor over Vanderbilt this year as Norwood Ervin, a starting defensive end, didn't make his. The important end spots are being held by Lester Mack, who started at fullback against Bama last year, and freshman Zack Spratling.

The Commodore field goal, extra point and kickoff chores rest with soph Mike Woodard, who booted true on 19 of 20 conversions and five of eight field goals last year and was named to the All-SEC Freshman team. Freshman Jim Arnold has taken the punting job away from returnee Cody Whitt (who had a 37.2 yards per kick average last season).

BROWNLEE-MORROW ENGINEERING CO., INC.

MANUFACTURER'S REPRESENTATIVES

BIRMINGHAM
P. O. BOX 43348 • 35243
PHONE 205/967-2873

DECATUR
P.O. BOX 1624 • 35601
PHONE 205/355-2613

DOTHAN
P.O. BOX 6525 • 36302
PHONE 205/793-1652

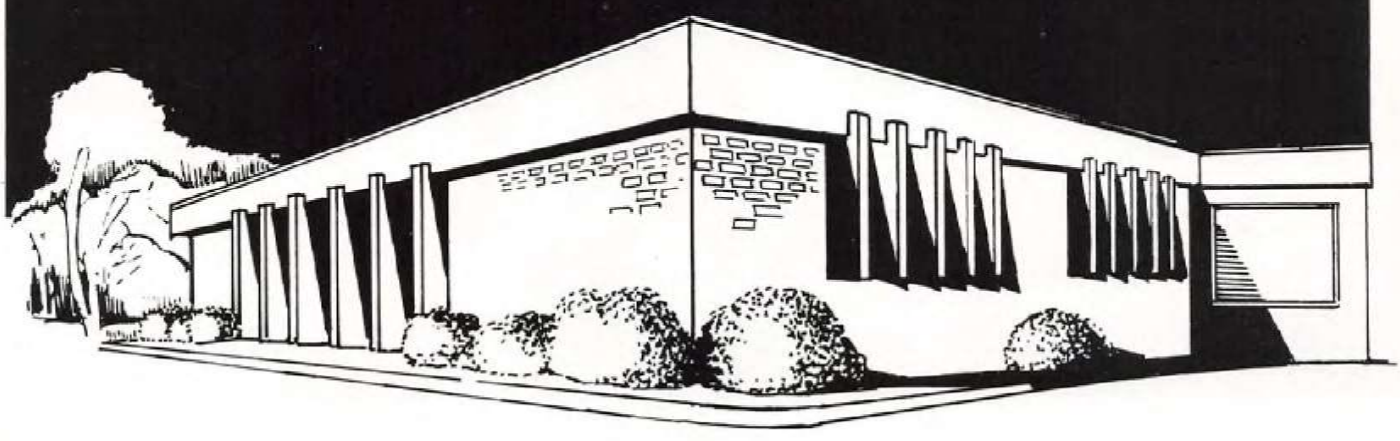
MOBILE
P.O. BOX 6203 • 36606
PHONE 205/471-1462

OFFERING QUALITY PRODUCTS IN:

AIR SYSTEMS
GENERAL AND PROCESS VENTILATION

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL
FABRIC, WET AND ELECTROSTATIC FILTRATION EQUIPMENT

FLUID HANDLING
PUMPS FOR: CORROSIVE, VISCOUS, ABRASIVE AND GENERAL TRANSFER APPLICATIONS



ALABAMA DEPTH CHART VS. BAYLOR

Here is a depth chart of the Alabama players who performed against Baylor Saturday night with starters listed first and no one listed at more than one position although a few played more than one spot. Bama used 62 men in the game, including 16 redshirted freshmen and seven true freshmen. There were 29 on offense, 27 on defense, six on specialty teams.

OFFENSE

Split End: Keith Pugh, Tim Clark, Darryl White
Left Tackle: Buddy Aydelette, Eddie McCombs, Vince Cowell
Left Guard: Mike Brock, Scott Allison
Center: Dwight Stephenson, Joe Robbins
Right Guard: Vince Boothe, Gary Bramblett
Right Tackle: Jim Bunch, Wiley Barnes, Bill Searcey
Tight End: Tim Travis, Bart Krout, Larry Brown
Quarterback: Steadman Shealy, Don Jacobs, Alan Gray
Left Halfback: Billy Jackson, James Haney
Right Halfback: Major Ogilvie, Mark Nix, Joe Jones
Fullback: Steve Whitman, Charlie Williams, John Hill

DEFENSE

Left End: Gary DeNiro, Wayne Hamilton, Mike Pitts
Left Tackle: Byron Braggs, Joe Beazley
Middle Guard: Warren Lyles, Curtis McGriff, Bob Cayavec
Right Tackle: David Hannah, Scott Homan
Right End: E. J. Junior, John Mauro
Strongside Linebacker: Randy Scott, Ricky Rozzell
Weakside Linebacker: Thomas Boyd, Robbie Jones
Left Halfback: Don McNeal, Jeremiah Castille, Jerrill Spinkle
Right Halfback: Mike Clements, Ken Coley
Strong Safety: Tommy Wilcox, Bobby Smith, David Reeves
Safety: Ricky Tucker, Jim Bob Harris, Benny Perrin

SPECIALTY TEAMS

Punter: Woody Umphrey
Placekicker: Alan McElroy
Snapper: Barry Smith
Coverage: Buddy Holt, Ken Simon, Jeff Fagan

Great FAN IDEAS FOR ALABAMA

MAGNETIC STANDINGS BOARD
Know the Southeastern conference standings at a glance. Colorful team insignias can be repositioned to show the current standings after each game. Right side of board holds notes and messages magnetically. Can be mounted on wall or use stand-up easel back. Great for dens, dorms, kitchens, even the corner bar.
STANDINGS BOARD (13"x11"W) . . **$7.95 + $1.50 S&H**

ALABAMA WOOD PLAQUE
Beautifully walnut finished real wood plaque with official Alabama hand painted cast insignia. Measures 6½ x 9½". Has recessed hang hole on back. Handsome decoration for home or office.
WOOD PLAQUE..$9.95 + $1.50 S&H

WASTEBASKET - TABLE LAMP - ASH TRAY URN
These great looking items are perfect for the den, rec room, office or as a gift. Beautifully lithographed full color, official "Crimson Tide" insignia decorates these heavy gauge steel items.
WASTEBASKET (10"x19"H) . . . . . **$8.95 + $3.00 UPS**
ASH TRAY URN (10"x19"H complete w/sand) . . **$9.95 + $3.00 UPS**
TABLE LAMP (10"x41"H, 3-way switch) . . . . . **$39.95 + $3.50 UPS**

OTHER COLLEGE & PRO TEAMS AVAILABLE - WRITE FOR DETAILS
TCM ASSOCIATES • DEPT. AL-9 • P.O. BOX 98 • BELLWOOD, IL 60104

ORDER FORM

TCM ASSOCIATES, DEPT. AL-9,
P.O. BOX 98, BELLWOOD, IL 60104

Enclosed is my check or M.O. to cover costs and shipping for items checked below:

☐ **Wastebasket** $8.95 + $3.00 UPS
☐ **Table Lamp** $39.95 + $3.50 UPS
☐ **Ash Tray Urn** $9.95 + $3.00 UPS
☐ **Standings Board** $7.95 + $1.50 S&H
☐ **Plaque** $9.95 + $1.50 S&H

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

Ill. residents add 5% sales tax. Allow 3 weeks for delivery.

RINGTHEBELL.com on Archive.org

AROUND THE LEAGUE

DATE	ALABAMA	AUBURN	FLORIDA	GEORGIA	KENTUCKY
Sept. 8	30 at Georgia Tech 6				
Sept. 15		26 KANSAS STATE 18	10 at Houston 14	21 WAKE FOREST 22	14 MIAMI (OH.) 15
Sept. 22	45 BAYLOR (B)* 0	31 S. MISS 9	7 GEORGIA TECH 7	7 at Clemson 12	10 at Indiana 18
Sept. 29	at Vanderbilt	at Tennessee	at Miss. State	S. CAROLINA	MARYLAND
Oct. 6	WICHITA STATE (T)	N.C. STATE	at LSU	at Ole Miss	at W. Virginia
Oct. 13	at Florida	VANDERBILT	ALABAMA	LSU	OLE MISS
Oct. 20	TENNESSEE (B)	at Georgia Tech		at Vanderbilt	at LSU
Oct. 27	VIRGINIA TECH (T)	at Wake Forest	TULSA	KENTUCKY	at Georgia
Nov. 3	MISSISSIPPI ST. (T)	FLORIDA	at Auburn	VIRGINIA	BOWLING GREEN
Nov. 10	at LSU	MISSISSIPPI ST.	GEORGIA (J)**	at Florida (J)**	at Vanderbilt
Nov. 17	MIAMI (T)	at Georgia	KENTUCKY	AUBURN	at Florida
Nov. 24					TENNESSEE
Dec. 1	AUBURN (B)	ALABAMA (B)	at Miami	at Georgia Tech	

DATE	LSU	OLE MISS	MISS. STATE	TENNESSEE	VANDERBILT
Sept. 8			13 MEMPHIS ST. (J)# 14		
Sept. 15	44 at Colorado 0	38 at Memphis St. 34		28 at Boston College 16	13 at Indiana 44
Sept. 22	47 RICE 3	7 MISSOURI (J)¢ 33	14 at Maryland 35	51 UTAH 18	14 CITADEL 27
Sept. 29	SOUTHERN CAL	S. MISS. (J)	FLORIDA (J)	AUBURN	ALABAMA
Oct. 6	FLORIDA	GEORGIA (O)	TENNESSEE (H)	at Miss. St. (M)	at Tulane
Oct. 13	at Georgia	at Kentucky	at Florida St.	GEORGIA TECH	at Auburn
Oct. 20	KENTUCKY	at S. Carolina	MARSHALL (S)	at Alabama (B)	GEORGIA
Oct. 27	FLORIDA STATE	VANDERBILT (O)	S. MISS. (S)		at Ole Miss (O)
Nov. 3	at Ole Miss	LSU (J)	at Alabama (T)	RUTGERS	MEMPHIS ST.
Nov. 10	ALABAMA	at Tulane	at Auburn	NOTRE DAME	KENTUCKY
Nov. 17	MISSISSIPPI ST.	TENNESSEE (J)	at LSU	at Ole Miss (J)	at Air Force
Nov. 24	at Tulane	at Miss. St. (J)	OLE MISS (J)	at Kentucky	
Dec. 1				VANDERBILT	at Tennessee

1979 STANDINGS	Conference	Overall
Alabama	0-0-0	2-0-0
Auburn	0-0-0	2-0-0
LSU	0-0-0	2-0-0
Tennessee	0-0-0	2-0-0
Ole Miss	0-0-0	1-1-0
Florida	0-0-0	0-1-1
Georgia	0-0-0	0-2-0
Kentucky	0-0-0	0-2-0
Mississippi State	0-0-0	0-2-0
Vanderbilt	0-0-0	0-2-0

*Alabama home games are played at Birmingham or Tuscaloosa
**At Jacksonville
¢Ole Miss home games are played at Jackson or Oxford
#Mississippi State home games are played at Jackson, Starkville or Memphis

BAMA SCORECARD

Newton Named

Alabama basketball coach C. M. Newton has been named to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Basketball Coaches of the United States. "I'm highly flattered to be named to the board," said Coach Newton. "I also know that the board does a lot of work, but that is one of the reasons I'm happy to be named. It works hard to promote basketball." Other members of the Board of Directors are Jack Hartman of Kansas State, John Thompson of Georgetown, Billy Key of Missouri-Rolla, Bobby Knight of Indiana, James Williams of Colorado State, Eddie Sutton of Arkansas and Jerry Krause of Eastern Washington.

Golfers In Buckeye

The Alabama golf team of Coach Conrad Rehling will open its fall season this weekend in the Buckeye Invitational at the famed Ohio State Scarlet Course. This is annually one of the nation's top college tournaments and the course is frequently the site of the NCAA championships, as it will be this spring. Bama is defending Southeastern Conference champion.

Exhibition Canceled

The Australian National Basketball team had a tour scheduled for this winter to play a number of American university teams, including Bama on Nov. 20, but the exhibition schedule has been canceled. In its stead, Alabama will play four rather than three intrasquad games. The intrasquad schedule has Bama at Huntsville Nov. 8, Montgomery Nov. 13, in Tuscaloosa Nov. 16 (the night before the Alabama-Miami football game in Tuscaloosa) and Nov. 20 at Boutwell Auditorium in Birmingham.

Track Signees

Calvin Smith of Bolton, Miss., who helped set a junior world record in the 400-meter relay, highlights the list of 18 new Crimson Tide track and field performers. Coach John Mitchell's new performers as a group have won almost 20 state championships and several rank among national prep leaders, including Ken Simon of Montgomery who is on a football scholarship but is expected to participate in track as well. Two of the new signees — high hurdler Joseph Curtis and triple jumper Delwyn Horton — are from Chicago State, which dropped its track program. Two are junior college transfers, Joseph Yelder of Montgomery from Seminole (Fla.) JC and Steve Buchholz from Mermac (Mo.) JC. Yelder is a sprinter, Buchholz a pole vaulter.

The preppers are sprinter-long jumper Allen Buford of College Park, Ga., miler Mike Butler of Huntsville, sprinter Lorenzo Collins of Mobile, half miler Stafford McKinney of Athens, Ga., pole vaulter Mark Norstedt of Mobile, 440 and 880 man Dennis Raines of Athens, Ga., sprinter Guy Robinson of Montgomery, high jumper Rod Rudolph of Albertville, long jump and triple jump man Kenneth Scott of Bay Minette, distance runner Scott Scheffler of Clewiston, Fla., half miler Mike White of Capital Heights, Md. and distance runner Steve Rowe of Huntsville.

Winning Streak

When Clemson was defeated by Maryland Sept. 15 that made Alabama's 10-game winning streak the longest in the nation, along with Southern Cal which had won two games this year as of that time.

Brooksbank Wins

Soph women's swimmer Marla Brooksbank of Huntsville won the 800 meter freestyle at the World University Games in Mexico City with a time of 9:04. Teammate Patricia Clug, swimming for the French, was seventh in the 200 meter butterfly and 10th in the 100 meter butterfly.

Alabama's highly-regarded C. M. Newton has received another honor, appointment to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Basketball Coaches of the United States.

Accent Alabama! Shop the Crimson Collection

The Crimson Collection

Official Souvenir Shop, U. of Ala. Athletic Department, Memorial Coliseum, P. O. Box AE, University, AL 35486

USE YOUR VISA ☐ OR MASTER CHARGE ☐ Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date: Mo._____ Yr._____

You may also send check or money order (sorry no C.O.D.). To cover handling and shipping charges add $2.00 to orders including multiple items; for single item orders add $1.50. Tuscaloosa residents add 6% sales tax; Alabama residents add 4% sales tax; out-of-state residents add no sales tax. Delivery within three weeks.

Quanity	Circle size:
_____A.	Jacket: Size S,M,L,XL $17.95
_____B.	Toboggan: One size $3.50
_____C.	Chip Shirt: Size S,M,L,XL $9.95
_____D.	Jersey: Youth XS,S,M,L $6.50 Adult S,M,L,XL $7.50
_____E.	Sweatshirt: Youth XS,S,M,L $6.50 Adult S,M,L,XL $7.95
_____F.	Bama Bib: One size $1.95

RINGTHEBELL.ORG on Archive.org

Total _____ + TAX _____ + POSTAGE _____ = TOTAL AMOUNT _____

The security they offer is better than a 21-point first quarter.

The security your New York Life Agent offers is as basic as life itself—the realization of your personal goals. Your family's financial security. Protection against the high cost of illness. A more comfortable retirement.

These are some of the New York Life Agents in this area who devote their careers to helping people achieve solid financial security. They have the experience and knowledge to design a life insurance program to meet your family's needs. For their special kind of security, call today.

Annette Hendrix
Birmingham

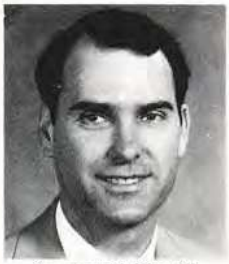
Lloyd R. Wilson
Medical Center

Wilmer S. Poynor, III, C.L.U.
Birmingham

James E. Wilson
Birmingham

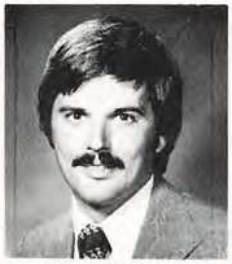
Thomas E. Estridge
Birmingham

Wm. Gene Thompson, C.L.U.
Birmingham



Seymour M. West III
Birmingham

R. Larry Hawkins
Birmingham



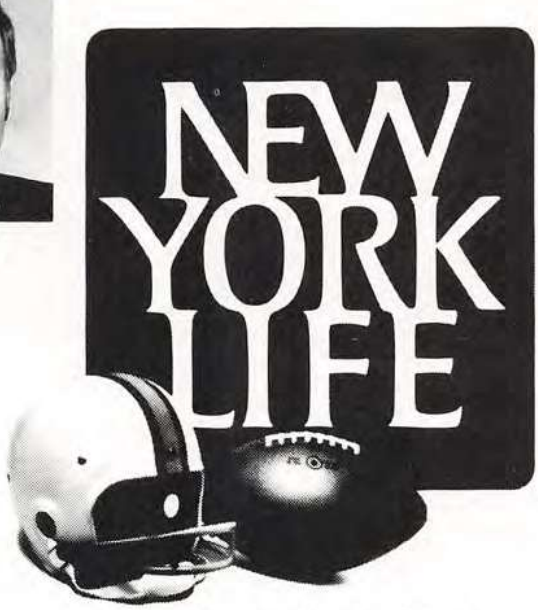
Brown L. Motes
Sylacauga

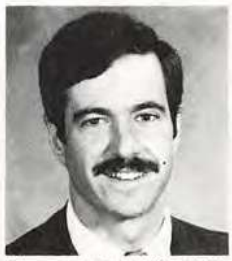
Henry H. Cobb, Jr.
Birmingham

Sidney Brown
Birmingham

Dick Hendrix
Anniston

Richard Davis
Medical Center





Hammond Cobb, III, C.L.U.

Jim Colpack
Medical Center

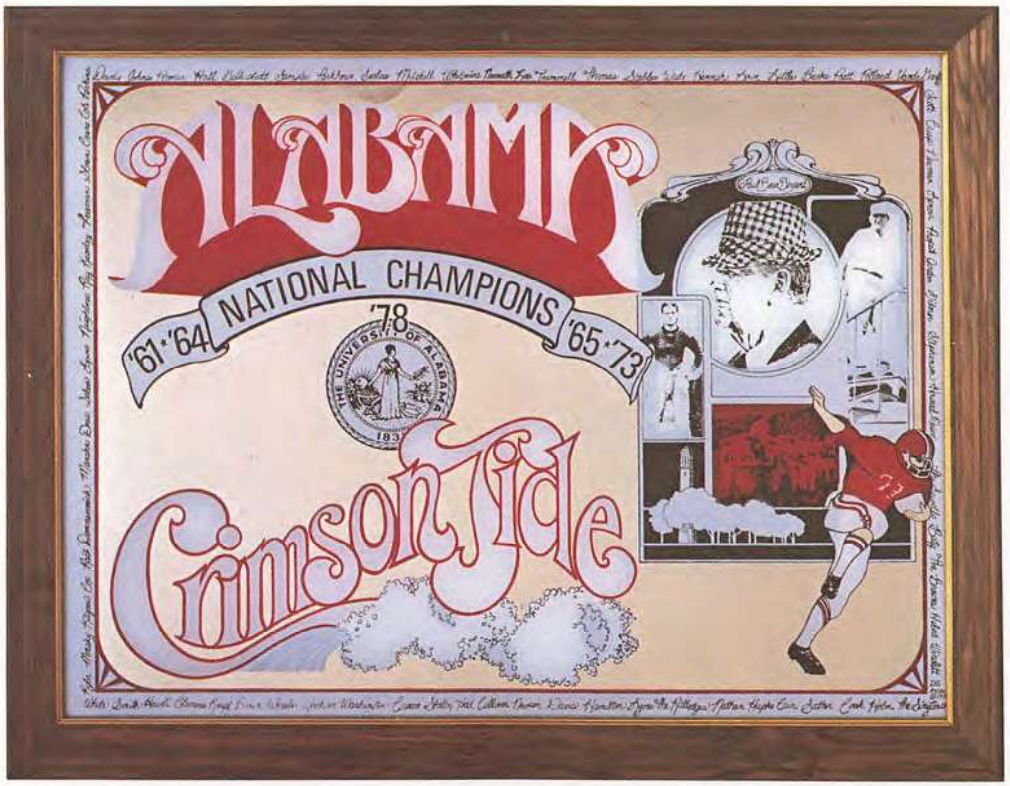
New York Life. For all of your life.

Birmingham General Office
1333 Bank for Savings Building · Phone 328-8590

Medical Center General Office
1700 First National Bank/Southern Natural Gas Building · Phone 328-9050

REFLECT! Revive your memories of BEAR and BAMA with the

ALABAMA FOOTBALL MIRROR



Mention the name "Bear" or "Bama" and every football fan knows who you are talking about. Paul "Bear" Bryant and the University of Alabama. Two of the greatest names in college football. The glamour of both is captured on the beautiful ALABAMA FOOTBALL MIRROR.

Measuring a full 20"x26" in crimson, white, and sepia, this handsome wood framed pub-style mirror features images of Bear, plus the names of Tide All Americans, coaches, and people synonymous with Alabama's 90 years of football inscribed around the mirror border.

This is a great way for fans to show their loyalty. It becomes a focal point for conversations when entertaining friends.

Produced by a proven silk screen process, the ALABAMA FOOTBALL MIRROR makes the perfect gift for loyal fans to hang in that special place in their office, den, or party room.

The **ALABAMA FOOTBALL MIRROR** is priced at $45 each, plus $4 per mirror for shipping and handling. Complete the coupon and make check or money order payable to:

DG ASSOCIATES
P.O. Box 9002
Birmingham, Alabama 35213

Please send me _____ **ALABAMA MIRRORS.**
QTY.

Enclosed is my remittance for $_____

NAME _____
PLEASE PRINT

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____

RING THE BELL on Archive.org

A Golden Opportunity From First Alabama Bank

For the first time ever, you can now go to many places in the U.S. and get cash out of a machine—with the American Express® Gold Bank Card.

What's so exciting is that your Gold Card can get you up to $100, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Just look for the Express Cash SM machines. In Birmingham, there's one at First Alabama, Eastwood Mall.

Besides cash from a machine, you can use your Gold Card in many other ways. For example, at over 9,000 locations you can get cash by presenting your personal check, or just by showing your card.

When your American Express® Gold Bank Card is approved, you not only get American Express® Card charge privileges all over the world, you are also eligible for a cash reserve of $2,000 from our bank—in effect a pre-approved loan to use when and where you need it. No waiting; just come into First Alabama Bank for your money.

Take advantage of this golden opportunity and come by any First Alabama Bank office to obtain a Gold Bank Card request form. Or have one sent to you by calling Arthur Baxter, Vice President of Marketing at 205/326-7188.

Something extra and special for you from First Alabama.

AMERICAN EXPRESS

First Alabama Bank
of Birmingham®